

# THE "CONDER" TOKEN

## COLLECTORS JOURNAL

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE "CONDER" TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB.



WARWICKSHIRE 41 (REV)      WARWICKSHIRE 42 (OBV & REV)      WARWICKSHIRE 44 (REV)  
(THE OBERSE OF WARWICKSHIRE, D & H #41 WAS USED WITH 3 DIFFERENT REVERSES).  
(THE ILLUSTRATIONS ABOVE ARE FROM CHARLES PYE'S ENGRAVINGS, 1801).

VOLUME III NUMBER 1      MARCH 15, 1998      CONSECUTIVE ISSUE #7  
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7 Nice Sharp Unc, usual rusty rev	\$85
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256 EF, lacquered, rev spot	\$19
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307 VF/EF, crack but no cud	\$15
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338 Choice Dark VF/EF	\$24
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BUT OF COURSE YOU CAN CALL TO ORDER OR JUST CHAT AT:

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Welcome Friends!

February 15, 1997

Please note the new numbers above. It's the same 800# but I moved recently and couldn't keep the old other ones.

Below is a short itemization of a few of my tokens on a very recent list. If you don't get my list, PLEASE call me NOW (If it's after 11AM PST) that is!

## 18th Century British Tokens

(HALFPENNIES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

### BUCKINGHAM

Chesham DH20, GXF, lion statue.....22.50  
Slough DH22, AU (obv.possibly  
UNC., lacquered, scarce.....95.00

### CAMBRIDGE

County DH12, XF or a bit better,  
Druid/beehive.....18.00  
" DH36, 1/2d, UNC.w/some lustre and  
a few tiny spots, Druid/beehive....40.00

### CORNWALL

County DH2, GXF or better, Druid...45.00  
Penryn DH4, UNC/AU-just a bit of  
"cabinet friction", nice surfaces..52.50

### DEVON

Plymouth DH8, Rare, NXF w/a few  
light pits, bust of Geo.III.....35.00

### DORSET

Poole DH10, 1/2d, UNC., Hope stan-  
ding/crest.....40.00  
" DH11a " scarce, F-VF w/a  
couple of spots.....12.50  
Weymouth DH12, 1/2d size, GILT GXF  
w/lustre, bust of Geo.III.....75.00

### GLOUCESTER

City Kempson DH2, 1d, bronzed UNC.  
but the DIES are getting a bit rusty,  
St.Mary de Crypt.....80.00  
" " DH8, 1d, Bronzed P-L UNC.  
scarce, White Friars.....90.00

Badminton DH27, nearly UNC.w/some  
lustra, scarce, bust/wheat sheaves.59.00  
" DH28, UNC.w/lacquer and lustre  
traces, DH calls it scarce but it's at  
least rare if not RR! bust/scales.112.00  
" DH55, AU-UNC.w/lustre traces,  
scarce, 3 1/2 6 1/2 lb. scales.....62.50

### HAMPSHIRE

Emsworth DH13, XF w/a couple of  
spots, bust/Britannia seated.....\$ 14.00  
" DH30, XF but some pitting on part  
of the rev.legend, Howe/ship.....10.00  
Gosport DH41, XF/GXF, Bevois/ship..17.00  
Newport DH46, (Isle of Wight),  
GVF/NXF, bust of Wilkens/old ship..25.00  
Portsmouth DH53, GVF w/a couple  
scs., scarce, Howard/castle gate....12.00  
Southampton DH90, Fine, Bevois/  
Justice seated.....17.00  
" DH102, 1/2d, UNC.w/lustre-mostly  
in the devices-a bit off center,  
Howe/ship.....49.00

### KENT

Canterbury DH8, GVF w/a long very  
strong die crack through the tower!  
cathedral/arms.....11.00  
Dimchurch DH15 BIS (unlisted edge)  
(see Somerset 15 & edge of 32)  
GVF, Justice standing/sheep over  
cypher.....45.00  
Lamberhurst DH35a, VF-XF w/obv. a  
bit better, shield/shield.....15.00

## INTRODUCTION

by Wayne Anderson  
President & Editor

ON THE COVER, the full face bust of "Philemon Holland, M. D. Died 1636 aged 85." (Dr. Holland), featured with the three different reverses used with his obverse portrait. These are Warwickshire, D & H numbers 41, 42, and 44. The three reverses are: #41 - a view of the interior of Free School Coventry; #42 - the same die (altered) with boys playing marbles and an usher gesticulating; and #44 - the spines of two books, "Cyropaedia" and "Britannia," an open book, and a quill. There were only small quantities of these private tokens struck: 36 of number 41 in copper (plus 6 in silver); only 6 of number 42 in copper (the reverse die was altered, then it broke); and 18 of number 44 in copper. There were also a few exceedingly rare trial pieces struck, i.e., D & H numbers 39, 39 Bis., 40, and 43. These tokens were all struck for E. W. Percy, and the dies were engraved by Hancock. They were all executed on large, thick, heavy flans, the obverse in high relief, with high relief edge lettering. These tokens are striking examples of what collecting 18th century tokens is all about. They are spectacular! They are also another example of the fantastic work of the die-sinker, John Gregory Hancock, Sr., of Birmingham. E. W. Percy was a member of the legal profession, and a well known antiquarian. He was eventually appointed clerk to the magistrates; he died about 1840. Dr. Philemon Holland was born in 1551. He became a fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and head master at Coventry. He also practiced as a physician at Coventry, and later at Cambridge. Dr. Holland was referred to as "The Translator-General," and translated various works, including; Xenophon's "Cyropaedia" and Camden's "Britannia," with additions made by himself. Dr. Holland also claimed to have written the whole of the manuscript of Livy's "Romanes Histories" with only one pen, which was later enclosed in silver by a feminine admirer. Thus, the quill and the verse in the open book on the reverse of D & H 44:

"With one Sole Pen / I wrote this Book / Made of a / gray Goose Quill. = A Pen it was / when I it took / A Pen I / leave it still."

(The preceding information may be found in the book, "Tradesmen's Tickets and Private Tokens 1785-1819," by Mr. R. C. Bell; I have quoted excerpts from his work).

CHANGES. After having much discussion with our assistant editor, Clifford C. Fellage, and a good number of other active members, I have gone ahead and changed the name of this production, from "Newsletter" to "Journal." After reading Colin Hawker's letter, I concede that he is probably right! We are more than likely producing a "Magazine", however, that name doesn't seem to have the nice ring to it that "Journal" does. Technically, there are no daily entries made into our journal, but there is daily activity which is ultimately consolidated into these quarterly productions. Merriam - Webster's Dictionary, 10th Edition, states that a journal may be, "A periodical dealing especially with matters of current interest." It seems to fit! I have also decided to use Mr. Hawker's term, The Proceedings of The "Conder" Token Collectors Club, on the title page. I believe that this word also sounds good, and it is meaningful. I have also numbered this issue Volume III, Number 1, Consecutive Issue number 7, at the request of our librarian, Harold Welch. This year we will issue four of these journals, on a quarterly basis, beginning with this issue. Volume IV will begin with the March, 1999 issue. All of these changes are responsive to the wishes of, and input from our membership.

**PRODUCTION.** I was very disappointed with the quality of the printing of our last issue. I am certain that many of you noticed the poor quality of the photographs and plates contained therein. Printing is probably not the best term to use for the reproduction of the material contained in the journal. Duplication is probably a better term, and I am continually amazed that some of the material duplicates very nicely, and some material duplicates very poorly. For example, the duplications of the photographic plates contained in Jerry and Sharon Bobbe's article were atrocious. The Bobbes' worked very hard to produce an outstanding and educational article for us, surrounded by the plates which accompanied their text. The plates were key to understanding the text. Sharon is a wonderful photographer, and her original photographs were spectacular. So were the scanned copies of her photographs, but Copy Max could not duplicate them with dignity. She was, "Truly embarrassed" by the reproductions, and I was too. I worked personally with the manager of Copy Max for several hours, over a period of three days to try to get them right. I am convinced he did his best with the equipment he had to work with, but in the end he apologized for his inadequacies. I went ahead and published them anyway, because it was the best that could be done at the time. All I am able to do, is to try a different duplicating company. Perhaps that will solve this problem, and great photographs, like Sharon's, will appear as they should in future journals. I appreciate her efforts very much.

**ANA 107th ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION.** I have signed up the Club as an ANA member, and have ordered a Club table for the ANA Convention in Portland, Oregon on August 5th - 9th, 1998, at the Oregon Convention Center. I am still looking for a slate of officers to elect at our first annual meeting. I would suggest that officers would serve for a two year term, beginning in 1999. Please let me know if you are interested in becoming actively involved in the leadership of this organization. We need candidates for, President, Vice President, Treasurer, and any other officers that you deem necessary. We also need to find and appoint a new editor and publisher to replace me in 1999. The job requires a person who can improve on the production of this work, a person who perhaps has some expertise, and definitely a person who has the time, patience, and enthusiasm to do it. Our Librarian, Historian, and Assistant Editor (I have been grooming him for my job!) are already in place, and I personally view these positions as more permanent appointments. We are in good financial condition, although I haven't had time to format our financial report, I will have it for you next time. I shall look forward to seeing you in Portland, at the ANA Convention. I'll try to have hotel information for you in the June issue, or call the ANA at 719-632-2646, and mention the Club.

**AUCTION NEWS.** The big news is, of course, Jim Noble's' auction in Australia on July 7, 1998. His sale contains some 4,000 tokens, including many extremely important ones. His collection has been formed over a period of forty years, and includes pieces from most of the important sales. Jim has a list that you may send for ahead of the catalog. He has written his fascinating story for publication in this journal. It is a real piece of token history! A number of our members plan to attend what is more than likely the most important token sale ever to take place to date.

**THIS ISSUE** of the journal is again packed with interesting articles from contributing members. Many of the names will be familiar to you, and there are some new contributors as well. Again, I wish to personally thank all of you who have taken the time to contribute articles, letters, and ads to this journal. Until next time, please enjoy these pages!

Wayne Anderson

**My First "Conder"**  
**by**  
**Carl C. Honore', NLG**

It was Fall of 1993. I had just finished reading one of the best articles written for COINage magazine in recent memory. The subject was a two-part series on the Matthew Boulton's contributions to modern coinage. The series was written by Dr. Richard G. Doty, Curator of the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution soon to be my friend and mentor.

I had been collecting United States Large Cents by die variety for some time, and I wanted to branch out into other types of copper. (Copper is my favorite coining metal.) I read these articles and marvelled at the photographs of the coins and tokens issued by the minting firm of Boulton and Watt. I especially liked the photos of the Druid head piece. I decided then and there that I was going to collect every piece by type, both coin and token that came from that mint, starting with the Druid head.

I phoned Frank Van Valen at Bowers and Merena. "Frank" I said. "I just have to have some of these British tokens from Boulton and Watt. Is there someone in my area I can talk to?" If anyone would know where these pieces could be found, he would. He did. He gave me the telephone number of Jerry Bobbe, numismatist, in Portland Oregon.

The next day I gave Jerry a call. "Hello, Jerry Bobbe please? Hi Jerry, I got your phone number from Frank VanValen at Bowers and Merena. I am interested in a Druid Head token. Do you have one for sale?" (I know, buy the book before the coin, and I did not know D&H from Adam at that time, but it didn't matter. I just had to have that token.)

"Yes I do." Jerry replied. "It's an Anglesey 19." (My first introduction to a D&H number). "It's big and it's uncirculated. It is such and such a price. Do you want it?" Of course I did. "Yes, I'll take it". I ended with all the necessary information.

I eagerly counted the days in anticipation. One week later I got a letter from Sharon Bobbe, which I still have. "I got ready to package the token up to send to you" she had written. "But OH NO! I realized I sent it to ---Rich Doty at the Smithsonian Institution after I promised it to you. " (Sound of my jaw striking the floor). "I contacted him and told him that if he would send it back I would send him another token at the same price. You should be receiving the token from him in about a week. I am also enclosing some back issues of the token examiner at this time. Good Luck". (Sound of my jaw being put back into place, and big sigh of relief.)

Again I counted the days. Finally the package arrived. I tucked it into my shirt and glanced furtively now and then over my shoulder on my way home from the post office. I took it home and opened it. On the envelope was (and still is) written "Anglesey 19. formerly (briefly) in the collection of Richard G. Doty".

I opened the envelope and inside was a fabric pouch. I held my breath and slid the token from the depths of the pouch. This was truly the most magnificent, beautiful piece of 18th century copper I had ever seen. The Druid's head was boldly emblazoned on the obverse, and on the reverse was the all important wreath and initials "PMC". I was instantly hooked. I was the proud owner of my first "Conder" token.

(I eventually checked out "the book" from the ANA library and found out that it was indeed an Anglesey 19).

This was not a Boulton and Watt piece, but it didn't matter. I acquired a beautiful piece of coining art, met a firm friend in Rich Doty, a new dealer and hobbyist in Jerry and Sharon (friends, too) and a source of Boulton and Watt Bronzed Proof tokens all in one shot.

But it gets better. Through Jerry and Sharon I also met Bill McKivor, and Big Bob. Through Rich, I met Jules Reiver, and through Jules, I got to know others, and it goes on. These relationships are perhaps more valuable than that first token. (All this good stuff from reading a two article series!)

Thank you Jerry and Sharon, and Rich, for introducing me to the wonderful world of "Conders".



## *Flanagan's Favorites #3*

### ANTISLAVERY TOKENS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

After seeing AMISTAD yesterday, I decided to pen a few lines about (anti) slavery tokens. By the way ALL of you should see this movie!

We (from the USA) didn't do much about slavery until about 1820-1830. Whereas, our motherland (England) was giving it serious debate circa 1770-BEFORE "our" Revolution! Our new country had lots and lots of problems getting organized, therefore, , slavery was not a high priority. Nobody from the North was as "HOT" on the issue as were the Southerners. They really believed that their cotton and other products could not be raised cheaply enough to compete in the marketplace without slaves.

By the time we got to thinking about slavery, Britain had totally outlawed it. That is why tokens were produced in the middle of their campaign to ban slavery. We undoubtedly took our antislavery sentiments from England. We (the USA) also produced 2 Hard Times tokens in 1838-LOW 54 & 54a. We were-even then-so concerned with sexism that #54 had as its obverse legend "AM I NOT A WOMAN AND A SISTER" with the portrait slightly altered accordingly.

The kneeling Negro in chains was the seal of the Society for the Abolition of Slave Trade which was formed in England in 1787. This was the same tactic used in the USA-working on the slave TRADE first. By the time of the Amistad incident in 1831, we had laws on the books concerning the outlawing of slave trade, but didn't get around to abolishing slavery until JUST BEFORE the Civil War.

Thomas Bentley or, more likely, his partner Josiah Wedgwood (not to be confused with Westwood of Anglesey fame) produced several thousand of the Negro in chains as cameos. And, in 1795 to 1797, the tokens started being produced as an opportunistic event timed to "cash in" on the shortage of small change that led us to our "beloved" hobby! These tokens also had as either a primary effect (or maybe a secondary effect) that of enlightening the populace about slavery. Anyhow, it took until 1833 to get all the laws passed and ducks in a row for the complete emancipation of ALL British slaves!

We've been able to pin the dates down so well because Condor in 1798 published his work mentioning several of the tokens. We believe that the farthings and halfpennies were produced first, then the pennies. The pennies were usually done in white metal-thus perhaps really medalets.

Since Wedgwood and Bentley were both merchants in Liverpool, it's worth noting that all of the slave tokens except 1 (a Northumberland Spence piece) have been attributed to Middlesex. I'm not normally a list person, but in this case I feel it would be helpful to have a complete itemization in one place. Hope I got them all, but I'm sure you all will check me out!



# EIGHTEENTH CENTURY SLAVE TOKENS BY DALTON & HAMER #

PENNIES	HALF PENNIES	FARTHINGS
233	983	1082
233 BIS	1037	1089
234	1037 BIS 1	1097
234 BIS	1037 BIS 2	1104
235	1037a	1118
235 BIS 1	1037b	
235 BIS 2	1037c	NORTHUMBERLAND 34
235 BIS 3	1038	
235 BIS 4	1038a	
236	1038b	
237	1038c	
237 BIS	1038d	
238	1038e	
238 BIS 1	1038f	
238 BIS 2	1038g	
289	1038h	
289 BIS	1038i	
289a	1039	
289b	1039a	
289c	1039b	
289d	1039c	
289e	1039d	
289f	1039e	
TOTALS	23	6
GRAND TOTAL 52 different pieces		

Nice how the Penny and Half Penny rows come out even, huh!

The diesinker for most of these tokens was C. James with some MAYBE attributed to B. Jacobs. For a while one piece was erroneously attributed to Thomas Wyon.

Judging from the multiple orders all of the above tokens receive, a lot of you are very interested in this subject. If you can get all 52 varieties, I (and the CTCC) will put you in the "AWESOME" category!

Phil Flanagan CTCC#9



# TOKEN TALES

BY R. C. BELL  
(Fourth in a series).

## *Token Tales*

### Thomas Spence, World's First Socialist

By R. C. Bell

Newcastle Upon Tyne, England

Whigs and Tories soon explored the possibilities of traders' tokens for propaganda purposes, and ardent partisans issued political pieces to advance their opinions, while coin dealers prepared designs for sale below face value to anyone, for further utterance to customers at a handsome profit.

The most daring and prolific issuer of political tokens was Thomas Spence, who has been called "The First of the Socialists." He was born in Newcastle Upon Tyne in 1750 and had little formal schooling, though he was taught to read the Bible as a child while standing beside his father behind a hardware stall on the Sandgate, a district near the river.

The family were Presbyterians and attended the chapel of J. Murray, whose community lived in complete republican equality and, if necessary, shared their goods for the benefit of the chapel. Spence was taught his father's trade of making nets, and then became a clerk to a smith.

Later he opened a school in Peacock's Entry on the quayside. About 1770 he became interested in designing a phonetic alphabet to make spelling easier and to help the uncultured acquire a correct pronunciation of unfamiliar words.

#### Fourth In A Series

Thomas Bewick the engraver, who was a friend, cut steel punches for his type, and Ralph Bielby struck them on matrices for casting the letters. Spence published several pamphlets about the new alphabet and its use in 1775. These are now exceedingly rare.

The same year war broke out with the American colonies, and the "Prerogative of Rulers" and the "Rights of Man" were eagerly discussed in educated circles. A Philosophical Society was founded in Newcastle, and Spence



Portrait of Thomas Spence on one of his own halfpenny tokens of 1794, cut by the diesinker James. The legend "7 MONTHS IMPRISON'D FOR HIGH TREASON" refers to his seven months in Newgate which ended in December, 1794. The "4" in the date on the token is cut backward in error.

became a member, each of whom was expected to read a paper to the society.

When it was Spence's turn he chose to speak on the advantages of public ownership of land, and attacked landlords and aristocracy. Feelings ran high, and when Spence had his lecture printed as a halfpenny broadsheet and sold in the streets some felt that the prestige of the society had been lowered and he was expelled from its membership.

About this time he went to the Great School at Haydon Bridge, near Hexham, as a schoolmaster, and married a Miss Elliot. His son William was born in 1782. Spence became more and more obsessed with his socialistic ideas and his marriage began to founder.

In 1792 Spence and his small son left Newcastle and sought a new life in London, leaving Mrs. Spence behind. Thomas acquired a book and slop stall at the eastern corner of Chancery Lane and Holborn.

He joined the political turmoil of the day, and in 1793 started a cheap periodical called "Pig's Meat or Lessons for the Swinish Multitude." It was issued weekly, price one penny, and

## Token Tales Continued.



Halfpenny advertising token issued by Spence to advertise "Pig's Meat," his one-penny weekly periodical for the "swinish multitude," which he started in 1793. On this token the pig is shown trampling upon the trappings of royalty.

the words "swinish multitude" referred to a phrase taken from Burke's "Reflections on the Revolution in France:"

"... learning will be cast into the mire and trodden down under the hoofs of a swinish multitude." The phrase became a battle cry of the radicals.

In 1794 Spence was arrested for selling reform literature and was held in Newgate prison, high treason side, for seven months and was discharged in December, 1794 without trial. When Spence came out of prison his stall in Chancery Lane had disappeared and so he took a little shop at No. 8 Little Turnstile, High Holborn, which he called the Hive of Liberty.

For the next three years he earned his living as a coin dealer, selling genuine traders' tokens as well as curious pieces of his own manufacture. Early in 1795 he published a catalog of tokens arranged in alphabetical order, "The Coin Collector's Companion, being a description of the modern political and other copper coins." This was the earliest (but one) work on eighteenth century tokens.

Early in 1797 Spence was once more in trouble with the authorities for his political writings, and became bankrupt. He sold his stock of coins and his dies to Peter Skidmore, a dealer in Holborn,



"Pig's Meat," Spence's weekly, was advertised in this farthing token which the coin dealer-social reformer issued.

who later muled Spence's designs with his own and these freak pieces have proved puzzling to collectors ever since.

On April 10, 1799, Spence published a pamphlet entitled "The Restorer of Society to its Natural State." He was arrested and was tried before Lord Kenyon at Westminster Hall, found guilty of publishing a seditious libel and sent to gaol for a year. During his imprisonment he sent the following letter to a friend.

"... I beg pardon for thus troubling you, but I believe there are not any in such position as mine would conceal their case from their friends, for though there may be merit in suffering publicly, there can be none in private suffering. It can serve no purpose whatever, but is quite thrown away and lost. I have, therefore, written to two or three friends, informing them of my case, but have received no answers.

My case, sir, is that I have long been reduced to the bare gaol allowance which is a small loaf of bread and an ounce of butter per day. Now I believe very few would think this sufficient aliment, especially when I assure you that I could eat a great deal more bread, if I had it. You may depend upon what I say because the governor sees this letter and every letter which either goes from or comes to this place. If therefore you and a few other friends would send me a trifle to buy if it were but tea and sugar, would very much be obliged.

"If you direct for me at the gaol



Halfpenny propaganda token issued by Spence to vilify taxes and rents. "I was an ass to bear the first pair," complains the mule on this token, who is shown laden with baskets of TAX'S and RENTS.

it will come safe to hand. I am well in health, thank God, though very thin in person. Please remember me to all inquiring friends."

Convicts bought their own food and were charged exorbitant prices. They paid sixpence for a ten ounce loaf out of a half-a-crown's weekly allowance.

While in prison Spence planned a Spensonian Society for the propagation of socialistic principles, and on his release held meetings and sold pamphlets. In 1805 he published "The World Turned Upside Down." It was dedicated to Earl Stanhope and contained a map of the world with the poles reversed.

By 1812 the government was becoming uneasy about Spensonian propaganda which ranged from doggerel verse on broadsheets to remarks scrawled on walls and doors. Spence himself published little between 1808 and 1814. He was very poor and earned his living with a bookstall near the Pantheon.

In 1814 the Luddite riots encouraged the old reformer to start a new periodical, "The Giant-killer or Anti-landlord," price four pence. Only three numbers appeared. Its editor was stricken with a bowel complaint and died on September 1, 1814, age 64.

Next Token Tale will be: Volunteer Regiments.

World Coins, Sidney, Ohio

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## MATTHEW BOULTON'S TOKEN FOR GLASGOW

As I mentioned in the last issue of the *'Conder' Token Newsletter*, Matthew Boulton worked on several provincial coinages during the early 1790s. Two of these were pursued at the same time and by the same designer, Rambert Dumarest. The core period of Dumarest's work was the summer of 1791: the Frenchman was ailing and desperately wanted to return home - and he would actually leave Soho (on amicable terms, unlike his predecessor Droz) towards the end of July. That left Matthew Boulton without a resident designer: while a successor to Dumarest had indeed been engaged, he had not yet arrived.<sup>1</sup> But Boulton managed to extract dies for two tokens from Dumarest just prior to his departure. My last article discussed one of them, for the Cornish Metal Company. This article will discuss the other, an issue for Glasgow.

The story for Scotland is somewhat more straightforward than that for Cornwall. That is, we have a fairly uninterrupted stretch of correspondence from the beginning of the project to its successful conclusion - with correspondingly fewer necessities for guesswork. As with the Cornish story, proceedings at Glasgow began with a token which would never be produced. In the first case, John Vivian introduced the idea of a Cornwall/Devonshire halfpenny. In the second, the mover appears to have been Matthew Boulton, the proposed token a joint issue for three towns, Glasgow, Paisley, and Greenock.

This leads us to a verbose individual named Alexander Brown. Mr. Brown dabbled in a number of things; at the moment, he was acting as midwife to a new Scottish token. Token coinage had come fairly late to Scotland - at least, token coinage of the type with which we are concerned. The first (and for some time the only) issuer of halfpennies was the firm of Thomas and Alexander Hutchison, whose wares appeared in 1790. It was long assumed that John Gregory Hancock sank the dies and struck the tokens. But Alexander Brown's letter to James Watt of 3 May 1791 (which introduces him and the never-produced Scottish token to us)-

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<sup>1</sup>Noël-Alexandre Ponthon, who would work at Soho until the middle of the decade; he created dies for a number of tokens, including the Leeds halfpenny for Henry Brownbill and the later tokens for John Wilkinson.

suggests something else:

Immediately upon my arrival in Scotland I applied to Gilbert Hamilton and delivered to him Mr Boltons Memorandum about a Coinage of Half-pence for Glasgow Paisley & Greenock-- ... as Dean of Guild, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce & next to the Magistrates in the Town Council, he undertook to get the sanction of these three Bodies for the Coining & issuing the Copper-- He proposed it to the Magistrates seperately, but tho' often urged to it by me, he never found proper opportunities for proposing it to these Societys, And afterwards trusted to the L[ord] Provost & he settling the affair personally when at Soho--- But to my extreme Regret on the day before they returned from your place, on Friday last, I was accosted by a Partner of Gilbert Shearar [sic] & Compy, who showed me a drawing of a Medal he had got from Mr Venables at Birmingham who furnished the Edinburgh Half-pence, And on my endeavouring to stop any further correspondence on that subject till we should learn what the Provost & Mr Hamilton had fixed on with Mr Boulton & You He informed me That they had been entirely ignorant of our Design, and had given Orders for Three Tons to be Struck, of the same weight as the Edin<sup>h</sup> (36 to the pound) & marked 'payable at the House of Gilbert Shearar & Co:--- That the Undertaker would not engage for less than Three Tons at L.137 p Ton or L.410 for the whole, And tho' They should retail them for L.504 Yet he believed They would be no Gainers, But was affraid their Order to Venables was too explicite to be recalled--- They had also been informed that the person who formerly executed Your Medals [presumably John Gregory Hancock, Sr.], was now in the Service of their Correspondent- It has all along given me much uneasiness that this was not pushed earlier with the Magistrates, That an Honest [sic] Coin of Half an Ounce of good Copper might have been obtained by the Community. I have not seen Mr Hamilton since his return till this day, And he promises to write you tonight--- I fancy [some] Thing can be suggested to him, That may still bring it about on your Plan, it will give me particular Satisfaction---<sup>2</sup>

I apologize for the length of this quotation, but it tells us a great deal. As Colin Hawker learned, the 'Venables' was probably Thomas Venables, listed as a merchant in a 1791 Birmingham directory. We may ascribe the manufacture of the Edinburgh pieces to Mr. Venables, as does Mr. Hawker. Or we may not: Brown's letter mentions that Venables *furnished* the Edinburgh halfpence. Someone else may have actually struck them. My opinion is that Hancock designed *and* manufactured the Hutchison pieces, and he and Venables anticipated a similar arrangement for Gilbert Shearer.

Sometime between early May and late June, that arrangement fell through. Hamilton's

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<sup>2</sup>Matthew Boulton Papers [hereafter MBP] 233, Letter Box B5, Alexander Brown to James Watt, 3 May 1791; spellings in original. *Page 13*

assistance was indeed secured, and the vexing commitment to the Hancock/Venables team was successfully laid to rest. So was the idea of a token for three Scottish towns. Henceforth, talk would center on a token for a single place, Glasgow, and a single firm, Gilbert Shearer & Company. Moreover, Matthew Boulton had won the right to strike the piece. But the victory came with an obligation: in his letter of 29 June 1791 confirming the project, Hamilton insisted that Boulton ‘bestow so much pains & attention on [the token] as to make it very handsome so that it may be a pattern to any other Coinage which may be wanted for this Country’.<sup>3</sup> This Soho succeeded in doing, although not precisely in the manner anticipated.

Hamilton enclosed a letter from Gilbert Shearer & Company, also dated 29 June. The firm remitted drawings for the coinage desired, admitting that they needed improvement and correction. It stipulated that the edge of each token carry its guarantee of payment, and that thirty-six pieces be struck from each pound of copper. It also requested celerity in filling the order. Soho met everything but this final requirement.

Gilbert Shearer & Company allowed Boulton considerable latitude in interpreting its designs and the coiner acted accordingly, making some additions which found their way onto the finished product. The obverse figure of a reclining river god was retained,<sup>4</sup> but it was Boulton’s idea add the word CLYDE to the flowing jug which symbolized the birth of the river, his idea as well to incorporate the Latin legend NUNQUAM ARESCERE (it never dries up) around the reclining figure on the obverse (‘As it would look rather naked without some Inscription ... as custom seems to require it’<sup>5</sup>). In other details, including the edge inscription and the number of pieces per pound, Boulton promised to abide by the orders of the Glasgow firm. The latter generally liked what Boulton suggested, asking him to prepare three tons of tokens and send them north as quickly as possible. By way of inducement, it added that there would almost certainly be additional orders to come.

But a month went by and no tokens appeared. Dumarest must have begun creating the

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<sup>3</sup>MBP236, Letter Box H1, Gilbert Hamilton to Matthew Boulton, 29 June 1791.

<sup>4</sup>According to Alexander Brown, the reclining figure was inspired by a painting in the Luxembourg Gallery by Peter Paul Rubens (MBP223, Alexander Brown to Matthew Boulton, 11 July 1791).

<sup>5</sup>MBP253, Letter Box S1, Matthew Boulton to Gilbert Shearer & Company, 5 July 1791.



dies around the tenth of July, for a letter from Boulton to Francis Swediaur on the fourteenth mentions it as a recent occurrence. But Dumarest currently had one foot out the door (and was also being kept hard at work on the dies for the Cornish coinage); there was a very real question whether he would finish the Glasgow dies prior to his departure. He evidently did so: writing Dr. Swediaur on the twenty-first, Boulton mentioned that 'Mr Dumarest & I parted on very friendly terms & he is set out this day to Paris.'<sup>6</sup> Bearing in mind the acrimony with which Boulton had dispensed with his predecessor, had Dumarest fallen down on the job, Swediaur, and we, should certainly have heard about it.

But it was one thing to have dies for a coinage, quite another to have time to strike the coins. Boulton's resources were stretched to the utmost that summer, and a number of smaller tasks were set aside in favor of larger ones. Alexander Brown and Gilbert Shearer & Company both wrote letters to Soho, with polite but perplexed observations about the non-appearance of the order. Boulton's correspondents also requested a number of small changes to the dies and one larger one: could he substitute words GLASGOW HALFPENNY for the motto LET GLASGOW FLOURISH? He could, but he did not choose to, for it would have added several weeks to the project (as well as squandering the talents of the new French artist, Ponthon, who had just arrived and for whom Boulton had more important things in mind). But Soho was able to send a few specimen strikes north with James Lawson (who had gone to Scotland to visit his family towards the end of the summer). Lawson stopped by Gilbert Hamilton's offices to drop off the tokens; Hamilton was well-pleased, and he only urged that the tokens be put in circulation with all speed. He had good reason for his insistence. According to Lawson, the

Edinh<sup>h</sup> Halfpenny is in general circulation here, generally one or two in changing 6d[.] not a Halfpenny of Geo 3d will pass as they are all reckoned counterfeit[.] a plain piece of copper with a wore [worn] appearance passes but tho' ever so good with the Head of Geo 3d is not passable-----<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>MBP346, Box Swediaur, F., Matthew Boulton to Francis Swediaur, 21 July 1791. Swediaur was a chemist currently resident in the French capital, with whom Boulton was involved in a number of projects in the early nineties. He insisted on writing much of his correspondence in invisible ink, becoming annoyed when Boulton proved inept at decoding it.

<sup>7</sup>MBP322, Box Lawson James and Lawson, Archibald, James Lawson to Matthew Boulton, 5 September 1791.

Gilbert Shearer & Company grew increasingly desperate, 'as many of our friends here are anxious to know when there is a probability of our getting [the tokens]'.<sup>8</sup> But the firm's waiting was nearly at an end.

On 14 October, Boulton sent off the first of the Glasgow tokens, a trifle over a ton of coppers, packed in seven cases and remitted to the care of Iver MacIver, merchant, Liverpool. MacIver would see that they continued on their way to Glasgow, and to Gilbert Shearer & Company. The latter exulted in the news, but urged Boulton to send along the remaining two tons of this first order 'as fast as you possibly can as there is a great scarcity of Halfpennys here at present'.<sup>9</sup> Soho was unable to comply as quickly as hoped, but the final portion of the order appears to have left the mint in late December, a formal invoice going out on 4 January 1792. This part of the package consisted of nearly five tons of tokens,<sup>10</sup> packed into thirty-three casks. In all, Soho remitted some six tons of Glasgow tokens in two batches. If we assume that they were indeed struck at thirty-six to the pound (and there is no reason to doubt that they were, based on the weights of observed specimens and an absence of conflicting testimony in the Matthew Boulton Papers), then Gilbert Shearer & Company should have received around 82,148 pieces in October and 401,693 more in December, for a grand total of 483,093 Glasgow halfpennies. To this must be added some seventy-two pieces in copper-gilt, some at least of the proofs of this issue which appear from time to time.

The coins were gratefully received, and their artistry and copper content soon made them a model for other coinages - but not quite in the fashion which Gilbert Hamilton desired. For they were widely imitated - or counterfeited, if you prefer. D&H list three such issues (and a number of mulings between obverse or reverse dies and completely unrelated dies from other tokens: the mules were likely prepared for collectors, but some of the imitations were meant for

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<sup>8</sup>MBP253, Gilbert Shearer & Company to Matthew Boulton, 23 September 1791.

<sup>9</sup>MBP253, Gilbert Shearer & Company to Matthew Boulton, 28 October 1791.

<sup>10</sup>Note that the original total of three tons had doubled. I have been unable to locate correspondence explaining the increase, but it is certainly possible that the Glasgow firm decided to augment its order now, while Boulton seemed able to fill it, rather than waiting until it needed a fresh supply of tokens, by which time its coiner might have other, more important projects in train.

general commerce). If imitation is a mark of success, than the Boulton token for Gilbert Shearer & Company was successful indeed.

—R. G. DOTY





## What Was A Penny Worth?

By Jim Wahl

We know that in the 1780's small change was so scarce that it led to the issuance of tokens to alleviate this problem, starting with the Anglesey Druid series and the Wilkinson tokens beginning in 1787. R.C. Bell in his book, "Commercial Coins – 1787 - 1804" states that employers sometimes had to issue a single pound note to four or five men for their week's wages, who then had to shop together to spend it. The multiplicity of halfpenny and farthing tokens issued for use in trade also indicates that transactions were carried out to fractions of the penny. For some time I have wondered at what prices were at the time and as to the purchasing power a penny might have. My information is somewhat scarce, but I have found a few references that illustrate some interesting data.

As is typical everywhere, there were great differences in wealth and income from the wealthy to the poor and lowly paid workers. The first official census was taken in 1801. Attempts had been made to have a census taken as early as 1753, but opposition for fear that the data would be used by the Government to raise taxes prevented action at that time. Populations of some of the cities were:

London	864,000	Liverpool	77,000
Manchester	84,000	Birmingham	73,000
Edinburgh	82,500	Bristol	68,600
Glasgow	77,300	Leeds	53,000

Totals for England were 8,331,434    Wales 541,546    Scotland 1,599,068.

The above totals are 10,472,048. The census gave the totals as 10,942,646; this figure to include seamen and military, and some "and so on". At this time the population of the United States was 6,000,000 and France was 24,000,000.

A study was made of income levels of various segments of the population by P. Colquhoun, published in 1814 entitled, "A Treatise on the Wealth, Power and Resources of the British Empire". This study was made from the data of the census of 1801. From this study some annual income figures are given here are in pounds.

Great Lords	12,000 to 120,000
Opulent Families	4,000 and up, mostly from land
about 300 families	
Merchants and Bankers	2,500 plus
about 200 families	
Barons, Knights, prosperous squires	1,500
70,000 people	
Higher office holders, lesser merchants	700
250,000 people. This class included manufactureres, builders, shipbuilders, warehousemen, and those on the way up.	
Shopkeepers	150    500,000 people
Farmers	120    1,000,000 people
Minor clergy	120
Uncategorized	55    Considered the line between comfort and poverty.
Mine laborers	40
Agricultural workers	31    1,500,000 people. The pay of agricultural workers varied with seasons and they did not work every day. The pay was less in winter and higher at harvest time. It varied from 5 shillings per week in winter, 8 shillings in summer, and 12 shillings during harvest time.
Vagrants, thieves, prostitutes, recipients of poor relief.	10 pounds. 1,000,000 people in poor relief. (The thieves must not have been very competent and the prostitutes not very alluring!)
Some other groups:	
Innkeepers and publicans	100    250,000 people

Small freeholders	90	1,500,000 people
Traders' clerks	75	
University teachers & sim.	60	2,000 people

Prices of goods and necessities varied considerably from time to time, particularly in foods, depending on how good the harvest was. My data is fairly scanty, but here are some of the costs specifically for this period that I have read in several books listed at the end of this article as references, and other information I have been able to gather. After listing this data I will try to relate it to income and to what can be gotten from the tokens themselves.

Water - one penny per bucket. Due to the rapid growth of cities there were not central distribution systems, at least in all parts of the cities. Water was sold to households from tanks on water carts.

Beer - 4 pence per gallon, or 1 to 1 1/2 pence per quart. Beer was a better choice than the water, as some water sold from carts was frequently highly polluted, having been scooped from open drainage ditches.

Milk - one pence per quart.

Cheese - 4 pence per pound.

Butter - 9 pence per pound. Cheaper if rancid.

Wigs - The cheapest new one cost one guinea = 22 shillings or 264 pence. Because of the expense they were also sold as used items. Human hair for the making of wigs cost 17 shillings, 6 pence per pound, or 210 pence per pound.

Horse - Upkeep on a horse cost 40 pounds per year, the same as a country curate's stipend..

Houses - Built in a London suburb in 1788 for journeymen and artifice workers rented for seven to twelve pounds per year.

Wheat - The price varied widely from year to year. In 1793-1794 wheat rose from 43 shillings to 75 shillings, 2 pence. ( I don't know what the unit of measurement for this was.) The shortage of wheat led to a severe shortage of bread, higher prices and also food riots.

Coal - At an earlier time, 1751, coal rose from 10 pence per hundredweight to 18 pence at a time of shortage.

A respectable single person in London could rent a room for 18 pence per week.

A silk stocking maker could make four pairs per week at 30 pence per pair.

James Bisset, a painter, invented a process of painting on glass and became highly successful. He stated that he could readily make one guinea per hour. (Warwickshire 120)

In Westmoreland at this time a weaver, his wife and six children ate one ton of oatmeal in one year at a cost of 17 pounds, or 78 pence per week. Potatoes for 40 weeks cost 3 pounds, 10 shillings - working out to about 18 pence per week.

A wool carder in Leicestershire made 9 shillings, or 108 pence per week. This type of work was probably done by family children to supplement other income.

Workhouse children were put out to a nurse at one shilling per week, then apprenticed to various trades from age 7 to 21. Typical workday was 12 to 13 hours.

Pidcock's Exhibition admission cost 30 pence.

At the other end of the scale, 28 families had estates of over 100,000 acres. Charles Fox, later the leader of the opposition party in Parliament, came to London as a young fellow of 16. He and his elder brother lost 30,000 pounds gambling in three days. He retained his interest in gambling in later life, becoming one of the Prince of Wales cronies. The Prince of Wales at the time of his marriage in 1795 had debts of 650,000 pounds, requiring Parliament to bail him out. The Prince of Wales had an allowance of 50,000 pounds per year at an earlier date, which had proved to be inadequate.

There are not too many clues to costs in the tokens, the Gloucester Badminton tokens of Jelly & Arnott, D & H series 22 to 57 are the best examples. Inscriptions note that the price of bread to be 3 1/2 pounds of bread for a shilling in 1795, declining to 6 1/2 pounds of bread for a shilling by April, 1796. The inscription on D & H 22 states that the price of wheat was reduced to 9 shillings per bushel in 1795.

Richard Samuel, in his notes on tokens in *The Bazaar*, published in the 1880's , in describing Middlesex 239, *The Uncharitable Monopolizer*, says that a four pound loaf of bread cost 8 pence in 1798, 13 pence in 1799, and 21 pence in 1800. There was some inflation at the end of the century because of the wars with the French.

Taking the price of bread as a standard and converting it into a comparison to our present day price of bread with the above figures,  $3 \frac{1}{2} / 12 = 3.4$  pence per pound of bread, and  $6 \frac{1}{2} / 12 = 1.8$  pence per pound of bread. Taking our present price of about \$2 for a one pound loaf, the comparative value of one penny to the present would be from \$.59 in the first instance to \$1.11 for the lower priced bread. At 8 pence per four pounds of bread in 1798, the same comparison would be \$1.00 per penny.

If we take the figure from the census study of 55 pounds per year as the border line income between poverty and comfort, the average daily income for a 365 day year would be 36 pence per day. Here in the United States we could take an income of about \$15,000 per year take-home income after taxes as comparable, or \$41.10 per day income. Here again the comparative value of the penny would seem to be  $41.1 / 36$ , or \$1.14. Any comparisons for higher levels of income are not relevant, as at higher incomes the value of a penny in buying power is not significant.

One other comparison, which also is probably not relevant, is that the price of admission to Pidcock's Exhibition of 30 pence would take 83 % of our poverty-line man's daily income. To our similar hypothetical American this would translate to an admission of \$34.25. I put this figure in here only because that magnitude of admission costs is similar for many current popular attractions.

If this approach of comparisons is of interest, a few minutes work with a pocket calculator will yield any number of variations. However incomplete and fragmentary this study is, it appears that the penny did have a definite purchasing power.

#### References:

A Polite and Commercial People:  
England 1727-1783  
Life in Georgian England  
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Author	Published
Paul Langford	1989
Ernest Williams	1962
Elizabeth Burton	1967





## The Lichfield Museum

by

David S. Brooke

The penny token (Staffordshire 2) struck in honour of Richard Greene (1716-1793), the "collector of the Lichfield Museum," like those coins issued by James Bisset and Daniel Boulter, provides us with a fascinating glimpse into a late-18th century museum. The token appeared seven years after Greene's death, at a time when his collection was being dispersed, and was presumably designed as a memorial by his grandson, Richard Wright.

Richard Greene was an apothecary in Lichfield, an acquaintance (and possibly a relative) of the great Samuel Johnson.<sup>1</sup> In comparison with those engaging entrepreneurs Bisset and Boulter, he was a serious antiquarian. He built his collection over a period of some 50 years and contributed several letters to the *Gentleman's Magazine* on his acquisitions between 1769 and 1790.<sup>2</sup> The token shows a bust of Greene on one side, possibly taken from an engraving made during his lifetime. Greene seems to have regarded this engraved portrait as a good likeness since he presented it to James Boswell in 1776. The latter observed that the inscription on it, "Nemo sibi vivat" ("No one lives for himself alone"), was "truly characteristical of his disposition." The obverse of the penny shows the west porch of Lichfield Cathedral, where the Parliamentary general, Lord Brooke, was shot in 1643.<sup>3</sup> The museum contained a fragment of this porch, and also a model of the cathedral and various archaeological discoveries connected with it.<sup>4</sup>

Greene's museum is well documented. An engraving of two of its rooms was published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* in 1788, with a description of their contents.<sup>5</sup> There were three catalogues of it (1773, 1782, 1786), and in 1782 Greene circulated a general invitation in the form of the following handbill<sup>6</sup>:

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<sup>1</sup> The prime sources for Richard Greene are the *Dictionary of National Biography*; John Nichols, *Illustrations of the Literary History of the Nineteenth Century*, 1817-1858, VI, pp. 318-326; Llewellynn Jewitt, "The Lichfield Museum," in the *Art Journal*, 1872, p. 305. I have not seen the catalogues of the collection printed in 1773, 1782 and 1786; part of the manuscript catalogue of 1771 is given in Jewitt, pp. 307-308.

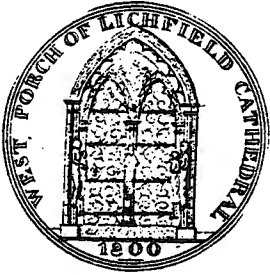
<sup>2</sup> The references to these letters are cited in Nichols, *op. cit.*, pp. 318-319.

<sup>3</sup> Greene took a special interest in this incident, contributing Dugdale's account of it (1681) to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 55, 1785, p. 943.

<sup>4</sup> Many of these discoveries came from the Lichfield area. There were chalices and a cross--all illustrated by engravings--found in Lichfield Cathedral, and Greene gives an account of the opening of the grave there of Adam de Stanford in 1787. The chalice and napkin found within were "carefully preserved in the Lichfield Museum for the inspection of the curious." Among other archaeological finds were a sepulchral urn from Yoxall, fragments of Roman weapons and a lead "pig" which was the subject of some discussion in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Some of these items were donated or lent to the museum. In a letter of 1786, describing the recent gift of an ivory relief, Greene mentions that "new articles are almost daily flowing in by the benevolence of my numerous friends."

<sup>5</sup> Vol. 58, p. 847. The description, in a letter written by the Rev. Henry White, is reprinted by Nichols, *op. cit.*, p. 325.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 322-323. A considerable list of "curiosities chiefly found in, or relating to this county," selected from Greene's manuscript catalogues, is given in Stebbing Shaw, *The History and Antiquities of Staffordshire*, 1798-1801, vol. 1, pp. 831-832.



**Lichfield Museum.** Mr. GREENE, deeply impressed with a sense of the favours of his numerous *Benefactors*, to whose kind Contributions he is indebted, in a great measure, for a valuable Collection of *Curiosities*; begs leave to desire their acceptance of a general Syllabus of his *Museum*; and takes this opportunity of acquainting them, that they, and as many of their friends as they please to recommend, will be entitled to visit the *Museum*, at all times except *Sundays*. ANIMALS preserved; viz. Birds, Fishes, Snakes, Lizards, Insects, Moths, and Butterflies. SHELLS; Corals, Coralines, Sea-plants, Sponges, and other Marine productions. STONES; Fossils, Minerals, Ores, Crystals, Spars, Marbles, Fluors, Incrustations, and Petrefactions. WOODS; Seeds and Fruits. ROMAN, and other Coins, Casts, and Medals. DRESSES, and Ornaments of the Natives of *Otaheite*; their Cloth, Weapons, Fish-Hooks, Nets, Tools, &c. presented for the most part by the Rt. Honourable the Earl of DONEGALL, Lord PAGET, and Sir ASHTON LEVER: *Cherokee-Indian* Pouches, Maweassons, Scalping Knives, Scratcher, Spoon, Tomahawks, Wampum, &c. ENGLISH and Foreign Weapons, Arms and Armour; This Collection exhibits the gradual improvements in the Gun and Fire-lock. REMAINS OF ANTIQUITY; viz. Urns, Vases, Patera, Sepulchral Relics, and a Roman Monuments of Lead, cast in the time of the Emperor VESPASIAN. ROMAN Missals wrote on Vellum, decorated with a variety of Paintings, and the Initial Letters finely illuminated: Crucifixes, Images, Thurible, Rosaries of Beads, &c. An uncommon Musical Altar Clock: Model of *Lichfield* Cathedral, &c. JANUARY 22d, 1782.

There is also an intriguing account of a visit to the museum by Samuel Johnson in 1776 which appears in Boswell's *Life of Johnson*.<sup>7</sup> This shows Greene to have been a conscientious and attentive curator.

We went and viewed the museum of Mr. Richard Greene, apothecary here, who told me he was proud of being a relation of Dr. Johnson's. It was, truly, a wonderful collection, both of antiquities and natural curiosities, and ingenious works of art. He had all the articles accurately arranged, with their names upon labels, printed at his own little press: and on the staircase leading to it was a board, with the names of contributors marked in gold letters. A printed catalogue of the collection was to be had at a bookseller's. Johnson expressed his admiration of the activity and diligence and good fortune, in getting together, in his situation, so great a variety of things; and Mr. Greene told me that Johnson once said to him, "Sir, I should as soon have

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<sup>7</sup> James Boswell, *Life of Samuel Johnson* (Hill/Powell edition), vol. 2, pp. 465-466 (3-23-76). Johnson, a native of Lichfield, visited Greene's museum on several occasions, and also used his services as an apothecary. In 1771 he went to see "Mr. Greene's curiosities, both natural and artificial" and two years later he lent an axe and a lance to the museum. Bruce Redford, ed. *The Letters of Samuel Johnson*, 1992, vol. 1, p. 380; vol. 2, p. 11. Boswell reported in 1779 that he had taken "a hasty glance at the additions to Greene's museum, from which it was not easy to break away." Boswell, *op. cit.*, vol. 4, p. 412.

thought of building a man of war, as of collecting a museum." Mr. Greene's obliging alacrity in shewing it was very pleasing."

As we gaze into what is clearly an accurate view of the interior of Greene's museum, we can see several of the objects referred to in his handbill of 1782. We are confronted by an "uncommon musical altar-clock, whose outer case represents a Gothic church tower."<sup>8</sup> A collection of "South-sea rarities, brought over by Captain Cook and other navigators" can be seen in the case on the left. Many of these were donated by Sir Ashton Lever (the proprietor of the Holophusikon in Leicester Square). In a letter of 1779, Johnson remarks to a friend that "Mr. Green of Lichfield has been here and is returned loaded with Sir Ashton Lever's Superfluities."<sup>9</sup> The cases in the inner room appear to contain mainly "natural curiosities," shells and spars, and various unidentified objects. Greene's museum also contained a fair number of "exotic oddities"--as did the museums of Bisset and Boulter--such as "a piece of the shroud of Edward the Confessor" and various royal gloves. It is tempting to think that the bust to the left of the tower clock is the one mentioned by Johnson in 1775: "Mr. Green has got a cast of Shakespeare, which he holds to be a very exact resemblance."<sup>10</sup>

By the time the token was struck in 1800, the contents of the museum were being scattered.<sup>11</sup> The fossils and the "preserved animals" had been sold by Green's son to Sir John Aubyn in 1799, and the following year the arms and armour were bought by Bullock, and subsequently entered his museum at the Egyptian Hall in Picadilly. Some of these, in turn, passed to Sir Samuel Meyrick and through him to the armoury at the Tower of London. What remained of the collection was sold to Walter Honeywood Yates in 1800 and was shortly thereafter purchased by Dr. Richard Wright, who issued the token.

The three private museums commemorated by tokens--Bisset's, Boulter's and Greene's--show many similarities in their collections. Greene's handbill of 1782 could almost serve as a guide for the other two institutions. Stuffed and preserved animals, shells, fossils, minerals and weapons seem to have been standard ingredients, as were souvenirs from the South Seas. Bisset lays more emphasis on his miscellaneous curiosities, but then he was something of a showman. At the other end of the scale, Greene took care in cataloguing, labelling and arranging his collections, and had a special interest in the remains of antiquity, Roman and Medieval, in his area.

The three tokens issued seem to reflect the character of the institutions. Bisset's coin advertises his wares as well as the contents of his museum. Boulter, a more solemn fellow (to judge from his autobiography) dignifies his establishment with personifications of Britannia, History and the Continents. Greene's token was, of course, issued by his grandson, but its representation of the historic west porch of Lichfield Cathedral recalls his interest in local antiquities, and lively concern for securing them for his museum.

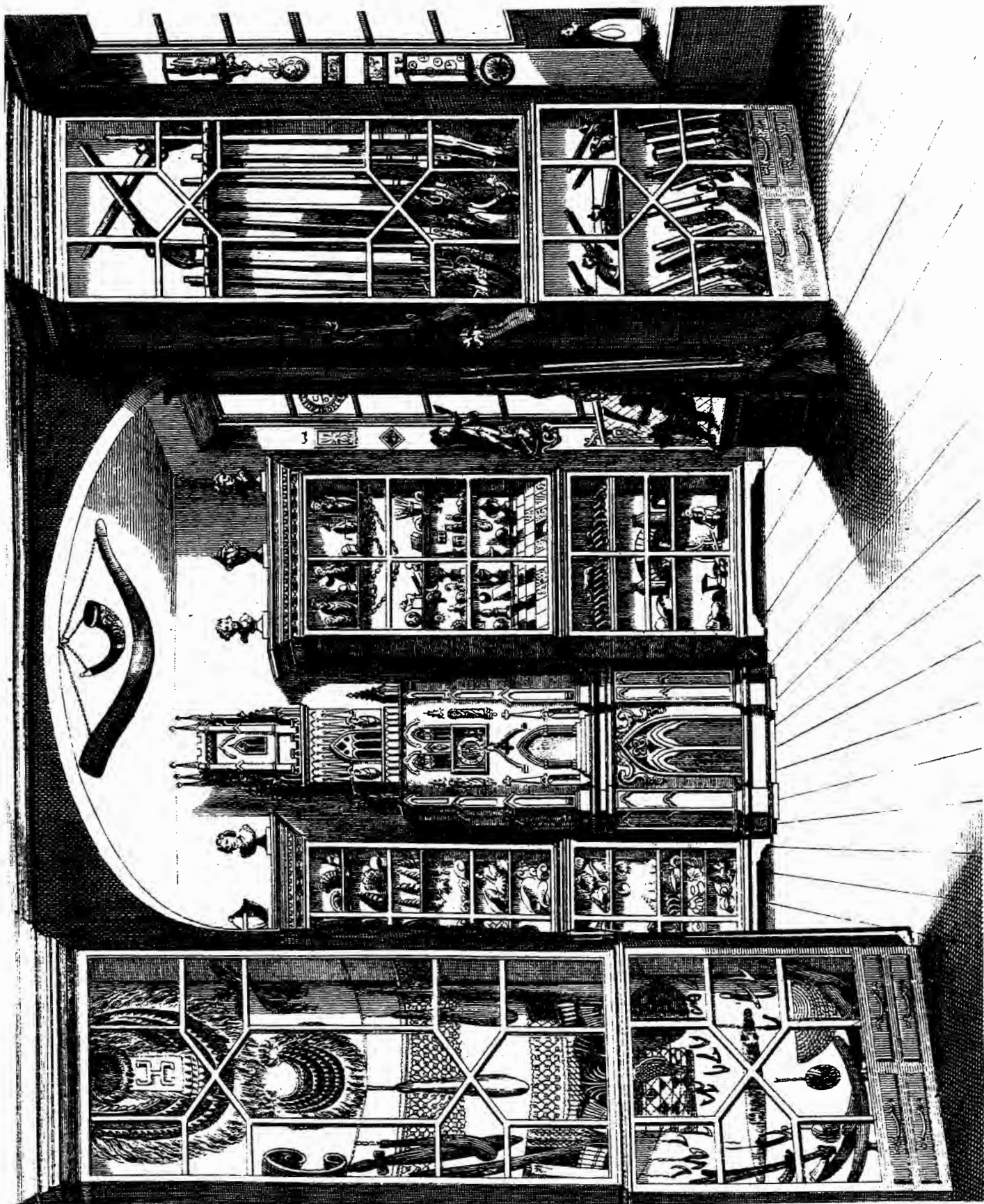
<sup>8</sup> Nichols, *op. cit.*, p. 326.

<sup>9</sup> Redford, *op. cit.*, vol. 3, p. 163 (5-4-79).

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2, p. 224 (6-13-75).

<sup>11</sup> An account of the dispersal of Greene's collection is given in Jewitt, *op. cit.*, p. 307.





Lichfield Museum

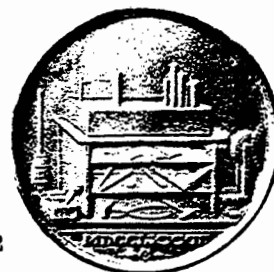




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## Just an Introduction to the Lunar Society

It has been requested that I expound upon the "Lunar Society." Although only two busts of these members are found on the British Provincial tokens, (John Wilkinson, D&H, War.#336 and Joseph Priestley, D&H, War.#33), this gathering is both a fascinating story to tell and is important to our beloved token's history. If one thinks of all their relatives and friends, everyone can draw quite a tangled web of acquaintances and personal connections. Well the Lunar Society had at least *fourteen* regular members of which more than half have some sort of book written about them. Therefore, you can imagine the wealth of information that could be reported here. This article is only intended to introduce them to you, explain the gatherings purpose and illustrate the personalities and diversity of its members. I will not spend much time on token manufacture, Watt's steam engine or how Boulton got a British government contract to mint pennies. The idea is to expand your knowledge about *other* people and events surrounding these happenings. To indicate the extent of the "tangled web" it will be noted Benjamin Franklin had a distant role to play in the society. And to illustrate the complexity of the members, of the 25 or more people I will mention, fourteen or more became Fellows of the Royal Society (FRS.) This signifies they submitted a learned scientific paper reviewed by one of its members and approved by this august British society.

The story of how these men came together, in of itself is worthy of a book. Some put Matthew Boulton at the apex, others would give the initial impetus to Erasmus Darwin (Charles Darwin's grandfather), and certainly the lesser know Dr. William Small was a catalyst. Dr. Small (1734-1775), a physician had migrated to Virginia to teach at William and Mary but after several years was ousted by a person with more political pull. Thomas Jefferson, one of his pupils gives him high marks as a professor. After his release he returned to England settling near Birmingham and through a mutual friend, Dr. John Ash, met Dr. Erasmus Darwin (1731-1802, FRS-61). Being both doctors they had a common interest in science. Thomas Bentley (1731-1780), a porcelain manufacturer and Matthew Turner founded the Warrington Academy (in that town). Though Joseph Priestley knew both men, being a science teacher at the academy, he did not become an active member in the Lunar Society until later. However, Josiah Wedgwood (1730-1795, FRS-83), of pottery fame, had a knee injury (which we will talk about later) and traveled to Liverpool to be treated by the surgeon Matthew Turner and subsequently became influenced by the Bentley circle. Matthew Boulton (1728-1809, FRS-85) and John Whitehurst (1713-1788, FRS-79) of Derby were long standing business friends since Whitehurst was a well established instrument and clock maker and Boulton a buckle and button maker. John Wilkinson (1728-1808) was also a local business man (Iron Monger). But John was a much later business associate of Boulton and a less frequent society member. Darwin came to Lichfield

in November 1756 and became the family doctor to the Robinson family which included a daughter Anne. Boulton had married her, so as it turned out, Darwin became Boulton's doctor also. Curiously, it was a canal proposal which solidified these connections. Samuel Garbett, one of the earliest promoters of the canal and partner of Dr. John Roebuck, was responsible for involving Boulton and Small into this plan to join the Mersey to the Trent river. Naturally, for business and transportation reasons Bentley and Wedgwood supported such a project. Dr. John Roebuck (1718-1794, FRS), never a member of the Lunar Society, was the inventor of a sulfuric-acid making process and involved in other business adventures, including financing James Watt's steam engine project. Dr. Roebuck, educated as a physician had many enterprises including the production of soda from salt and iron manufacture. Remember the British warships carried *carronads*, shorter cannons, made at the Carron Iron Works located on the Carron River, they were made with Roebuck's iron. Roebuck over extended financially, offered Boulton a one-third interest in Watt's potential engine. Influenced by the intelligent foresight of Erasmus Darwin and/or William Small (Small had introduced Boulton to Watt), Boulton wanted all or nothing. Eventually Roebuck sold out all to Boulton, and in 1767 James Watt (1736-1819, FRS-85) joined the Boulton group. Meanwhile Richard Lovell Edgeworth (1744-1817, FRS-81), a man interested in designing carriages and roadways, was working on a carriage drawn by "fire" (steam.) Through Darwin's knowledge of him and his correspondence he was drawn to Birmingham. Within months after Watt had joined the society Edgeworth brought along his friend Thomas Day (1748-1789), while Darwin had just previously brought in a school buddy, Captain James Keir (1735-1820, FRS-83) At this point we will take a break from the membership until the year 1775.

Boulton and his Birmingham, Soho works was certainly the center of this Lunar circle of friends. But who initiated the group? There were other existent philosophical societies around in England to model themselves after. Dr. Darwin was a man of far-out ideas and an outspoken person who may well have broached the suggestion. Yet the more withdrawn but ex-professor, Dr. Small could have whispered the idea into his ear. What is hard in writing about this society is that they **did not** refer to themselves as the "Lunar Society", a name given to them much later by outsiders. Derogatorily, they were known as the "Lunatics." Boulton's circle was a very informal group of men, some of whom came and went while others were steadfast regulars and it is difficult to always know who was which. The idea was to meet to share knowledge about science and inventions. Since they lived a little distance apart, it was suggested by Darwin they should travel on the first night of a full moon because otherwise it would be dark on the way home. Well what happened at these meetings? If one had read any of the many biographies of Benjamin Franklin, and about his gatherings, one would know the meetings were similar. They would hold a demonstration and discuss the implications afterwards. The eclectic subjects swung from geology one night to botany the next time. They had interests as varied as fossils, mechanical gadgets, ballooning, thermometers and even gunpowder. Some had special interest associated with their backgrounds or business. For example, Watt would tell of his latest problem with the developing steam engine. Yet it would be a mistake to think each man held exclusively to his own sphere of interest. Also a similar mistake would be that they were all personal friends. The purpose was science, and they had personality conflicts, and rivalries with firm opinions, but surprisingly they frequently borrowed each others

concepts. Wedgwood was particularly interested in the chemistry for pottery glazes. He had a close affinity for Keir, a mineralogist and glass manufacturer. Later in 1778, Keir would give up his glass works to take over the daily management of the Boulton Soho works in Birmingham. Whitehurst, the clock maker, who later moved to London but kept in touch, was a gadget man but also greatly interested in geology and ventilation systems. Dr. Darwin and Dr. Small were, like some later members, interested in botany often for the medical properties. Wilkinson and Watt had engineering interests of course, but Boulton had the greatest diversity of interests of all the members. (How to make money out of any of this, I guess!). All were intrigued by the new study of electricity and later with the addition of Priestley, with gases.

An event which greatly disturbed the Lunar Society was the death of Dr. Small, Darwin's close friend, on February 25th, 1775. He hadn't been a frequent experimenter but had been sort of a father figure and gave the society cohesion. At this point in time there was some danger of the society's collapse. Yet the addition of new members forestalled that consequence. Dr. Joseph Priestley (1733-1804, FRS-66) gave the society a new burst of activity. Priestley had left the Warrington Academy and moved about several times before coming to Birmingham, and his scientific expertise had advanced markedly. Priestley who by now had discovered dephlogisticated air (Oxygen), had also met with the famous French chemist Lavoisier - creator of a table of 32 fundamental elements! And who had evidently followed Priestley's work and subsequently coined the term, Oxygen. Tragically he however, was to later lose his head in the French Revolution. Darwin, through his knowledge of other scientist, once again was instrumental in having someone join the Boulton circle, this time shortly after Dr. Small's death. William Withering (1741-1799, FRS-85), the son of an apothecary, had not taken well to the study of plants at the university at first, but who turned out to be an excellent botanist and an outstanding medical figure of his times. William Withering, some may know, was the doctor most responsible for introducing digitalis (Foxglove) into pharmacopoeia, a discovery possibly suggested to him by Dr. Erasmus Darwin. And it is significant to know both a mineral and a plant have been named after him (Witherite & Witheringia.) Darwin was amongst the most prolific letter writers and he and Boulton were the prime correspondents with Benjamin Franklin although Dr. Fothergill may have out done them on separate matters. The last set of society members joined in the decade 1781-1791. Samuel (John) Galton Jr. (1753-1832, FRS-85), was the Quaker son of an industrialist, ironically a gun maker. Despite his wealth and luxurious upbringing Samuel junior was a hard worker. He later sold the armament factory because of Quaker pressure, became a banker and marrying a Barclay. Dr. Jonathan Stokes (1755-1831, FRS-85), M.D. from Edinburgh, was a zoologist, a chemist and heavily into botany and later became President of the Medical Society of Edinburgh. In regards to the Lunar Society, Robert Augustus Johnson (1745-1799, FRS-88) later M.P., left the least society records of all its members. He achieved the rank of Lt. General and is more important as a figure outside of the Lunar Society. He does seem to have had some knowledge and interest in chemistry and to have ordered laboratory equipment from Boulton. Although the history books imply fourteen regular members, the actual available records are weak, and several people should be thought of as very nearly regulars but leaving behind little record. Thomas Bentley and John Wilkinson were busy industrialists who probably had little time to prepare talks or demonstrations. Yet Wilkinson produced a precision core drilling

machine (excellent for Watt's cylinders in engine blocks and cannons), and he may easily have gotten ideas from the Lunar Society. Also, don't forget, Joseph Priestley was married to John Wilkinson's sister, Mary. An aside is there were several cross marriages among members and their offsprings. One such is Matthew Robinson Boulton married a daughter of William Wilkinson (John's brother) and she would also have been a niece of Joseph Priestley. Dr. John Ash (1723-1798 FRS), Dr. Small and Dr. Darwin's closest friend, is mentioned in much correspondence and should be considered a frequent attendee. Dr. Parr (1747-1825), a well-known outspoken Whig clergyman, is mentioned in one record as a regular, but some authorities dispute this. Joseph Black, the noted Scottish chemist, can be considered an absentee member since as professor of chemistry at Glasgow University and a close friend of several members was often a consultant. John Fothergill, a financial partner to Boulton, who I mentioned in an earlier article, and who also was another doctor took an active interest in botany and attended sometimes. Lastly we need to briefly mention three of Boulton's employees, William Murdock (1754-1839), inventor of coal-gas lighting, an "engine erector", (later to be a full fledged engineer), who helped install Watt engines in Cornwall. He eventually became general manager of the Soho works first declining an offer of partnership. William Playfield was nothing special and did not last very long with Boulton. But he was the brother of John Playfield, the Scottish geologist and mathematician, noted for his modifications of James Hutton's inspirational geologic work. ("...the present is the key to the past.") John Southern (1758-1815) was a very reliable employee, doing engineering drawings, and he invented a cylinder-piston-pencil, steam pressure gauge for Watt's engines. Southern also experimented with balloons and by 1810 became a minor partner in Boulton & Watt. Neither Murdock or Southern is recorded as being a member of the Lunar Society, possibly reaching the necessary status too late for a dying society.

It is time to move on to some of the intriguing personalities of these characters. The most startling incident, an indication of character strength, is associated with Wedgwood. I mentioned earlier he had had a bad knee, the results of a horse riding accident. Well this knee problem greatly bothered him making it difficult to walk, and he felt it hindered him from accomplishing things. So on what he called "Saint Amputation Day" (May 31, 1768) the surgeons sawed off his lower leg and later fitting him with a wooden leg. This before the days of anesthesia! As an aside, and I think we need one, Wedgwood had in his employment a delivery man named Bass, but in the winter months when deliveries were rare Bass made beer in his off hours - yes this is the origin of Bass Ale. Another "engine erector" besides William Murdock, though not recorded as a Boulton employee was Isaac Perrins. Many of you should know him from the token (**D&H War. #15**) as the boxer who challenged the champion Thomas Johnson (**D&H War. #12**) and lost to him on October 1789. *Bella Horrida, Bella!*

As mentioned Erasmus Darwin was gregarious, sometimes almost disruptive at meetings. His imperious and sometimes irascible speech is somewhat surprising coming from a person with a halting stammer. Physically he was rotund and later he walked with a limp from a broken knee cap. He had a peculiar habit of reading and studying while riding in his chaise (small carriage) as he made his medical rounds, having so rigged it and having the



horse knowing the way so well! Dr. Darwin had no patience for unthinking, uppity socialites and could keep them waiting or would be tactless. Priestley was extremely good with children, his own or neighbor kids. He would allow them to see his laboratory, patiently explain his experiments and putting it in language they could understand. But once, the unattended children did wreak a body of work. This however, did not change his attitude towards children. James Watt was a insecure man with poor health continuously from childhood and having low self-esteem. He had to be constantly prodded by Boulton or other society members to do or show his work. Boulton was just the ideal person to encourage this "faint-hearted" inventor and still not provoke him. Under another person, some other individual **may** have been the one to invent the steam engine! Watt considering himself beneath the status of the others so he was a studious person reading late at night in his rooms for long hours. And yet, with age he managed to become more expansive especially after 1800 when he retired. His accomplishments were more than making a practical steam engine as some of his other inventions were a specific gravity measuring device and an acceptable micrometer. William Withering, the author of "*Botanical Arrangement*" (it had a longer title), loved music, and playing the German flute and harpsichord, and who was an active member of the **Society for Promoting the Abolition of the Slave Trade**. His manner was reported as very kind, but "...his great accuracy and caution rendered him less open." He also was troubled with consumption (TB.) during the later part of his life. James Keir, selflessly suppressed many of his own scientific interests in order to manage the Soho Works, nevertheless he did find time to publish several times and obtain his FRS. He had among other interests, a curiosity in the electro-plating process. He managed to stir up virulent abuse on himself with his sympathy for the French Revolution. Edgeworth, another who was somewhat withdrawn, sometimes letting things slip through his grasp. An example was his failure to properly document or patent his roadway improvements. Consequently John Loudon McAdam (1756-1836), a later and more politically savvy man superseded him, and got **all** the credit by publishing in 1816. Eventually Edgeworth returned to his inherited estates of Edgeworthstown in Ireland and managed them in a model way - later being a member of the Irish government. One of his daughters, Maria Edgeworth (1767-1849), (Richard had four wives and 19 children), was a relatively contemporaneous author with Jane Austen but less well known. She wrote a biography of her father and his associates which is of much historical value. She also wrote novels but may be better known for her children's books. Maria Edgeworth, her *nom de plume*, as she was married to Dr. Thomas Beddoes who founded the Pneumatic Medical Institute after 1793. He contacted the Lunar Society for help in establishing it and to learn the uses of certain gases in helping to cure consumption. Mary Ann Galton, Sam Jr.'s daughter, better known as Mary Ann Schimmelpennick was the best eyewitness to the Lunar Society and a major chronologist of them.

Thomas Day, an accomplished boxer, and Richard Edgeworth, were the best of friends, but loved the same women, Elizabeth Sneyd. Edgeworth won out she being his third wife and bearing him nine children. Day, the author of "*Stanford & Merton*" was a quirky soul. An awkward, unkempt, tactless, bad mannered person. It has been written about him..."a preposterous, posturing, pompous bore." Though he sometimes got into diatribes about his ideas, much written about his personality is exaggerated and based on his last years. His

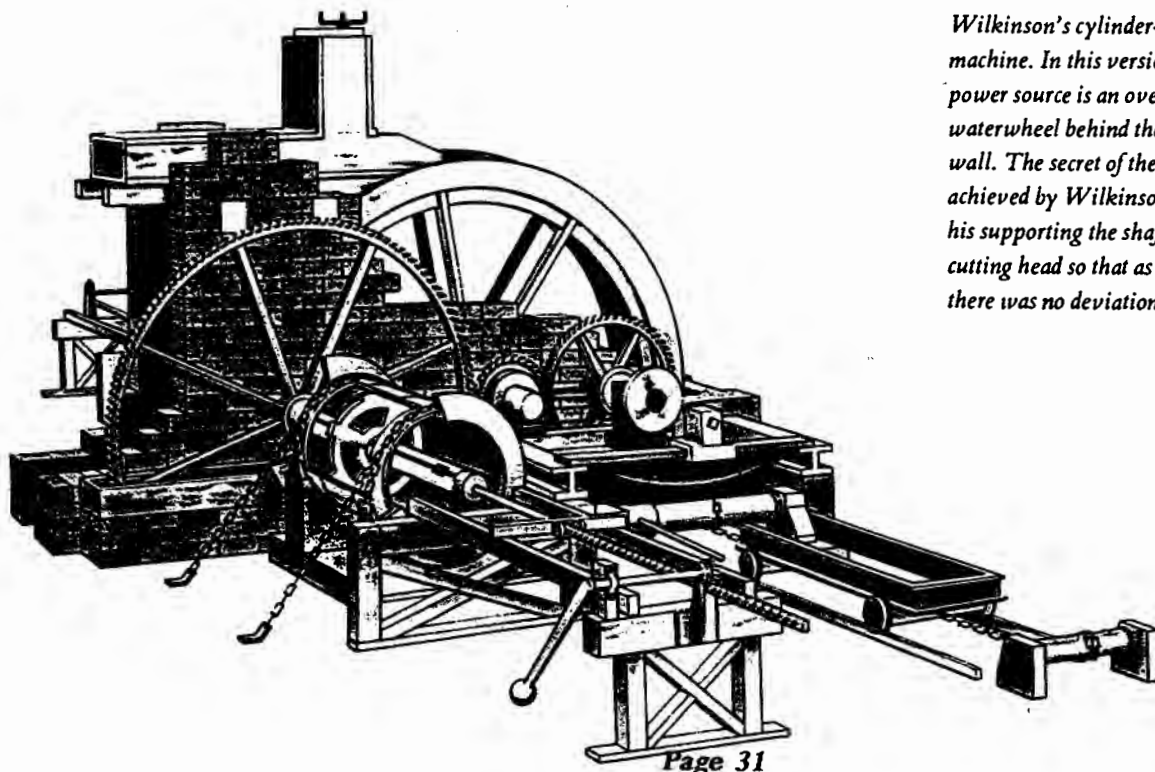
basic problem was he didn't have the necessary orderly scientific mind. His best work was after he left the society and returned to his estates and experimented with advances in agriculture. By the way, he was very influential in the **Society for Constitutional Information**. Many of his social ideas were sound but too far advanced for those times. He died young at 41 in a horse riding accident, thrown onto his head. Much of his false reputation as a terrible misanthrope was due to his desire for seclusion with his wife and his living a spartan life.

Boulton, the best saved for last, was that kind of person involved in everything. He took incredible business gambles, often just meeting his financial obligations in the nick of time. Yet his business sense was outstanding right from the start when he took over his father's small business. He never let a good business opportunity slide past. He was interested in thermometers, barometers, and telescopes. But best of all, Boulton had a concern for his workmen and it is not surprising to me during the King and Church riots, his Soho works were not damaged. (However Priestley's home *was* destroyed during the riots of July 14-17, 1791.) When one thinks of Boulton, and to some extent Watt, the word **anxiety** comes to mind. By the end of the nineties Boulton had four enterprises going: A copying of letters business; the small metal decorative parts business - including the original buckles and buttons; the token, now coining business, and of course the Boulton & Watt steam engine works. Boulton was not the best day to day business man, but he had Keir and later Murdock to do this. What he was, was a superb promoter. Such risk taking must have been very emotionally draining. He and Watt had many problems. This was the very beginning of the Industrial Revolution and there were several built in problems for these times. In order to build the Watt steam engine with its practical improvements over the Newcomen atmospheric engine there were certain materials not yet available as there would be today. Along the same lines, precision parts were not at hand such as a completely circular and balanced flywheel. And so methods had to be developed to produce them first. Also industrially trained skill labor could not be hired. Boulton set up his own training program, and it is not surprising to learn that many of those who became invaluable later to industry were Soho trained. Patent writing was not the technical skill it is today, and Watt had problems describing his inventions. Among the infringing competitors were Edward Bull and also the Hornblower brothers, Jonathan and Jabez. Therefore Boulton and Watt had to go to court which just added to their financial troubles. Lastly, the engines were rented to businesses, initially mining operations. (Note, John Wilkinson obtained one of the first reciprocal engines for his "Bradley" forge and Mr. Whitbread, the brewer, got the first rotating engine.) But there were problems with cheating on these rents, improper payments due to false accounts of engine shut-downs. By the way, it was some of the Lunar society members, Wedgwood, Edgeworth and John Smeaton who reported these discrepancies. In other words, Boulton and Watt had a lot on their minds. When it comes to summing up of the contributions of Lunar Society members various inventions it is awfully difficult to prove who did what. So much information was batted about with the membership and much of it was verbal without a record. However, though it is unprovable, the society members undoubtedly lent moral support with Boulton's anxiety. This is indicated by the members financial support given to Joseph Priestley after his home was destroyed by the King and Church riots.

The King and Church riots put a damper on the Lunar Society, not that they stopped meeting, but their meetings became less regular and with poorer attendance. On the other hand, at this time the sons, particularly of Watt, Wedgwood and Boulton, were old enough now to attend meetings. After the riots the loss of Priestley as he settled in Hackney, near London, was a major blow. Priestley finally left England for America in 1794. Another problem was several of the key member's children were sick or died of consumption in these later years. An earlier event which had to some degree affect the society was the French Revolutionary War (1793). Initially, these "liberals" of the times were all for the French revolt and search for liberty. But as events became more anarchistic the members split in their opinions. The final chapter on the society is the one we must all face. The core members started dying off, Josiah Wedgwood in 1795, Withering and Johnson in 1799. And when the central figure of Boulton died in 1809, the younger members seemed unable to carry on.

There is so much more to tell: Who was and was not a Quaker and their influence. Greater detail about the troubles and intrigues concerning Boulton and Watt enterprises. More about what the individual Lunar Society member's accomplished, and who got credit for what. And more about the offspring of the members and what they achieved. Well now I hope you have some inkling of the atmosphere surrounding the important events of Boulton - Watt - steam engine - tokens.

Richard Bartlett, CCTC #104



*Wilkinson's cylinder-boring machine. In this version the power source is an overshot waterwheel behind the brick wall. The secret of the accuracy achieved by Wilkinson lay in his supporting the shaft of the cutting head so that as it rotated there was no deviation off axis.*

## A Trip Through DAVID COPPERFIELD a la R.C. Bell

By Tom Fredette, CTCC # 60

Reading R.C. Bell's "Numismatic Christmas Carol" in the November 1997 issue of the Conder Token Newsletter, inspired me to try my hand at a similar effort. I will admit, however, that the attempt does not in any way measure up to the accomplishments of a man for whom all of us have much respect. So here goes: "The Brief Numismatic Journey of 'One Boy's Life' - from Suffolk to Dover".

Charles Dickens' novel DAVID COPPERFIELD was originally begun under the title "One Boy's Life". It encompassed the first 14 or so chapters of what would soon become the much larger work. It was loosely based on Dickens' own early years. The main character, Davy Copperfield, experienced a harsh upbringing and had probably too many adventures for a boy of little means. These first chapters of DAVID COPPERFIELD show Davy living in a number of locations and journeying from such places as Suffolk to Yarmouth, from London to Dover and eventually to Canterbury. There are a number of nice tokens which illustrate the places and scenes of that county and those towns the way Davy might have seen them.

According to the author, David was born and lived for a few years in his father's house in Blunderstone, Suffolk. His father, who died before David's birth, had left his mother and her maid Peggotty to fend for themselves and they really had no good idea of how to go about it. This predicament brought on the first of Davy's journeys because his mother decided that the way out of her predicament was to remarry.

Once the decision to marry the evil Mr. Murdstone had been made, Davy, along with Peggotty, embarked on a journey to Yarmouth to get him out of the way for a while. He made the journey in a carrier's cart that is illustrated in this old drawing and similarly depicted on the Tenterden halfpenny token No. 42. What an uncomfortable ride that must have been!



Upon arrival at this fishing village, young Master Copperfield was astonished and pleased to find that the house he was to stay in was a "black barge...high and dry on the ground with an iron funnel sticking out of it for a chimney." The beautiful Lowestoft token No. 37 shows a fishing scene and depicts fishing boats probably like the one shown here. He was charmed and captivated by it. It was a real boat, put to a new and unexpected (by him) use. He was convinced that "...it had probably been upon the water hundreds of times."



Davy spent time getting to know Peggotty's relatives and staying out of the way, as he had been sent there to do. Upon returning to Suffolk he found his mother and a new stepfather who talked his new bride into sending her son to London so that Davy could be employed as a child laborer at Murdstone and Grinby's wine merchants. Wine merchant tokens aren't all that common in the late 18th Century Series but one that nicely illustrates the business that young David found himself reluctantly involved in is the T. Bevan halfpenny from Wolverhampton.

While living in London, David boarded at the home of Mr. Micawber. Micawber (a character made famous by W.C. Fields in the 1930's film) was always in debt and soon was on his way to Newgate prison (or one like it) to be closed up until he could pay his debts-a system that makes no sense to us today. The Newgate Prison tokens from the Middlesex series are among the most beautiful. Under certain conditions, a nice extra fine example, with the right amount of red color, can give the illusion of a sunset or of light shining through the windows. But it was in reality a grim place.





Having lost his place to stay, the young man decided to strike out on his own and seek the home of his great Aunt Betsey Trotwood in Dover. David's journey from London to Dover which was partially accomplished in a coach similar to the one shown on the J. Palmer halfpenny from the Middlesex series was a harrowing experience. It took the better part of two days, involved a night sleeping outdoors near Chatham and a number of frights.

Davy felt secure for the first time in his life when he finally arrived in Dover at the home of his aunt and her childlike brother Mister Dick. Once the question of his guardianship had been settled, his aunt determined to send him to school in Canterbury.

Thus began a new set of adventures for our hero. These stories became the subject of the rest of Charles Dickens' famous novel  
DAVID COPPERFIELD.



"THAT'S NOT IT!" SAID I, "THAT SHIP-LOOKING THING!" "THAT'S IT, MA'N DAVY," RETURNED HAM—CHAP. III

## **The Collector's Cabinet**

*by*

*David S. Brooke*

A token-less friend, seeking a present for her brother, asked me recently whether there was a halfpenny with her maiden name of Wilkins on it. One that came easily to mind was Hampshire 46, issued at Newport in the Isle of Wight in 1792. This proved to be a happy coincidence since Newport is situated on the river Medina, and her brother lives in Medina, Ohio. I then decided to acquire the same token for myself, partly as a reminder of many pleasant times spent as a boy on the island where my grandfather had a house.

Correspondence with the Wight Heritage at the Guildhall in Newport revealed that the Isle of Wight Council issued a token for the use of visitors in 1996. This is now sold out, after incurring the wrath of the British treasury. I was also interested to learn that the island had a long token history, beginning in the 17th century and continuing throughout the 19th, when coins were issued at such places as the Anchor Brewery in Newport and the Cowes Floating Bridge. The only other late 18th century token seemed to be the West Cowes halfpenny (Hampshire 93) with the bust of the politician Charles James Fox upon it.

Robert Bird Wilkins (1756-1811) in profile has a sharp nose and the confident smile of a successful businessman. Samuels tells us that he was a man of many parts. Besides being an ironmonger, brazier, tin-plate worker, plumber, and iron and coal merchant, he was a banker in Newport, a prosperous market town and the capital of the Isle of Wight. He later issued a silver shilling and sixpence in 1811 which bore the inscription "May plenty crown this happy isle." The antique ship on the reverse of Wilkins's halfpenny token is taken from the corporate seal of Newport, and is close to the design of the Cinque-Port Round Ships (Kent 20, 39).

When I was in the Isle of Wight some 60 years ago, there was a pedestrian toll gate at Bembridge, at the east end of the island. On the payment of tuppence (I wish it had been a token) one gained the privilege of walking around the harbour.



## **“A Note about Conder Tokens on the Net”**

by

Richard L. Kolbek  
CTCC#251

It was last August, and after speaking with a few other CTCC members on the phone and getting some ideas from people on the internet, I decided to try an experiment – to put out something “tangible” on the web pertaining to Conder tokens. At first I was a bit leery, as there really wasn’t very much out there on the web to grasp and many collectors didn’t seem to have any idea what a Conder token was; but at the same time, I began to develop a simple web page. Occasionally, there were little bits of information pertaining to tokens, though only a diligent search would find what would be relevant for the page.

Primarily, a simple approach seemed warranted – just putting up a small image of a token and pasting just enough club information to attract prospective members. I was reluctant to offer too much information as to divert from the club, though this really doesn’t seem possible at this point. For not being an official site -- there were around 300 visits by mid-September (which was relatively quick) and there were 3 to 5 direct inquiries. This gave the indication there were more people out there collecting Conder tokens than lead on.

At the time this short article was written, there were approximately 150 visits to the improved version of the site and the feedback received had been positive. Many of the scanned images are not of the highest quality though they are adequate representations of the tokens. The main page has club information and who to contact with email information. The second page is comprised of the eighteenth century section taken from Richard Doty’s article “English Merchant Tokens” along with pertinent names taken out of the book by J.R.S. Whiting “Trade Tokens and their Makers.” The third page has the images which attempt to exemplify and envelop all the different types of tokens (i.e. general, commercial, private and political) and include a short caption beneath each image. The forth, and final, page shows a large download of an 18th century map of Great Britain; this is not the same map Cliff Fellage was distributing (which is an excellent one), though it is somewhat comparable.

If you have access to the internet and would like to visit the site it is at: <http://members.aol.com/dtobyne290/index.html>. Also, if you have any suggestions, information or ideas feel free to contact me at the web site. Besides it being some work, it was a lot of fun in developing the site initially with the hopes of attracting more “condernuts” to the hobby and to the club.

## The W.J. Noble Token Collection

The collection of British Tokens formed by W. J. (Jim) Noble is to be auctioned by Noble Numismatics Pty. Ltd., (formerly Spink & Son (Australia) Pty. Ltd.,) a specialist numismatic firm that was founded by Jim Noble in Sydney in 1976 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Spink & Son Ltd., of St. James', London, itself founded in the year of the Great Fire of London 1666. In 1990 the Australian subsidiary company became an independently Australian owned company that continued in the roll it had established as the leading professional numismatic auction business in Australia. The firm is the only Australian member of the International Association of Professional Numismatists - a distinguished group of professionals founded in Paris in 1951 and to which 100 member firms belong. The company established a branch office in Melbourne in 1982 headed up by the late Ray Jewell. The office is now managed by his assistant Jill Pearson in association with Gerhard Reimann-Basch, a long time friend of the Jewell family and well known numismatic expert. It is through the Melbourne office that the W.J. Noble British token collection will be auctioned from a separate catalogue on the 7th July as part of Sale 58. July is usually the time for the annual auction conducted by the office in Melbourne and happens to be the most convenient time of the year for people to attend the sale from the northern hemisphere. In 1994 the sale of the Richard Williams Collection of USA, Roman, British and world coins attracted a number of buyers from the USA. In 1995 the sale of the Inveruglas Collection of British crowns and Hong Kong coins and the Colin E. Pitchfork Collection of Indian mogul gold coins and East India Company coins attracted buyers from the USA, Europe and Asia. In 1996 and 1997 several Asian, US and European buyers were attracted to the auction for Ancient and British coins and Hong Kong banknotes. It is also the time for the annual convention of the Numismatic Association of Australia and its International Coin, Medal and Banknote Fair which this year will be held on the weekend of the sale week, 11th and 12th July at the same venue as the auction, the Dallas Brooks Centre at 301 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

Jim Noble began to collect coins seriously from 1959 when he was still 12 year's old. Prior to this he had been a general collector mainly of stamps even attending stamp sessions with other junior collectors at the house of neighbour and philatelist Miss Gourlay in 1954-5. After the tragic death, as a result of a medical accident in an operation, of his only sister who was nine years older in March 1960 Jim's parents encouraged him to concentrate on his collection even to the extent of supporting his purchases from London dealers by registered mail and local purchases through free adverts in the Sunday papers. Right from the beginning he was keen to acquire British and Australasian tokens. This soon spread to world tokens, but particularly British Colonial. One of his first major acquisitions of tokens was from Colin Pitchfork of Sydney in 1961 when the two exchanged parts of their collections. At about the same time another group of tokens was acquired from a collector who had bought them from Sydney antique dealer Stanley Lipscombe. Jim was above all else specializing in British copper and bronze. In 1963 C. Wilson Peck who authored the British Museum Catalogue of English copper, tin and bronze coins and broke new ground in research and presentation of details surrounding a "modern" coin series, corresponded with Jim and in one letter he will always hold dear to his heart Peck said Jim had a good "eye" and "the feel for coins".

His other main correspondents at this time were Ray Jewell, Major Fred Pridmore and Ray Byrne on British Colonial, and staff and directors of the three serious London dealers, Seaby's, Spink's and Baldwin's and Mr. French of Glendinings the London auction house. The opportunity was not missed in 1965 and 1966 to make acquisitions from the Ray Jewell and John Gartner collections through Max Stern of Melbourne. In 1967 he sold his British bronze series to pay for the acquisition of important British copper pieces in the Peck collection which was being sold by Spink & Son Ltd., per Patrick Finn. All through the 1960's he was quietly collecting new examples of British tokens for his collection. He had asked Peck if he collected the eighteenth century series to which he replied he had sold them long ago, however the main collection of importance had been formed by a man of the name Jan, however he understood he no longer collected.

In 1973 he catalogued his English copper collection for sale by auction through Spink & Son Ltd., and Glendinings in October. This work kindled the excitement of preparing collections for sale by auction through high professional standard catalogues. The decision to sell was based on the collection being nearly as complete as was possible in the near term and having married that year the money would be required in the near future to help purchase a home. He graduated with a Bachelor of Economics degree at Sydney University in 1974.

Early in 1973 he was partly responsible for bringing Douglas Liddell of Spink to visit Australia for the first time. Mr. Liddell was the guest speaker at the 60th Anniversary dinner of the Australian Numismatic Society for which Jim served as editor while Dr. William Mira was the President. Jim sold several items from his collection including English milled, Scottish communion tokens (the H.G. Williams collection) the USA related Conder tokens such as Washington pieces and some US Colonials to Mr. Liddell during his visit. In addition he gained valuable experience by helping process and despatch Mr. Liddell's other purchases in Australia.

In 1975 he prepared the catalogue of his Ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine and English hammered in gold, silver and bronze. Some of the work was done using the references in the stack of Sydney University from the James R. Stewart Library. At this time he realized he needed to improve his own library if he were going to be a true professional. The only career he could contemplate was as a professional numismatist along the line of those he had seen in Europe operating from offices instead of shops. During his visit to London and Europe that year he revealed his plans to set up an office in Sydney to Patrick Finn of Spink. The next day Spink asked if he would do it for them - their first overseas office in numismatics. Jim jumped at the opportunity. The sale of his collection formed under the joint ownership of his parents took place in December in London in an auction conducted by Glendinings and Spink & Son.

The Australian office opened at the Mezzanine Level, 26 O'Connell Street, 6th April 1976 and from the outset traded profitably with just Jim and his wife employed. In 1977 Mark Freehill joined the firm as a part time employee. The first auction was conducted in October 1977 at the Wentworth Hotel where the auctions in Sydney have always been conducted.



In 1982 an office was opened on the 17th floor, 303 Collins Street, Melbourne under the management of the late Ray Jewell who had been in charge of numismatics at Max Stern & Co. Pty. Ltd., and who was a well known collector and dealer. During the O'Connell Street era, 1976-1980, business continued to improve to a crescendo in the boom year 1980. The Company moved in November of 1980 to 53 Martin Place, where it occupied a large area on two levels in order to support a new art auction business as part of the services offered by Spink & Son. The business reverted to largely numismatic trading from 1983. Charles Vivian who had joined the Company in England and assisted in the fine art auctions initially soon became adept at coin and medal cataloguing. In 1986 he headed up a new retail art gallery in the Company's Martin Place premises. This venture closed in 1988 when once again the Company concentrated all its resources on numismatics. In 1990 Spink & Son sold its shares to Jim and the business was moved to new premises in Macquarie Street opposite the Sydney Mint building. The name was changed to Spink Noble Numismatics under license and then to Noble Numismatics in 1994 after the Christies takeover of Spink & Son in London. A long time friend and fellow collector Robert (Bob) Climpson joined the business in 1988 and became a director in 1990, though he had often helped at the company's auctions since 1977. Bob brought computer expertise to the business and has married that to his skills of photography so that the catalogue now can be produced entirely in house except for printing. The main cataloguer and consultant for the Company is Colin Pitchfork who recently retired from tertiary education.

While the Company had a policy of not allowing staff to collect Jim was allowed to retain his collection of tokens. He had made steady acquisitions each time he visited London from 1973, mainly from Spinks per May Sinclair and Baldwins per Peter Mitchell and Tim Millett. In 1980 he acquired several lots at the Farnell sale in New York through Spink and later from the T.A. Jan Collection in 1983 and 1984. Through Peter Preston Morley of Spink he made significant purchases from Myles Gerson's collection. Gerson together with Jerry Bobbe, David Griffiths and Patrick Deane had been bidding rivals at these auctions. He also had first pick at the Deane Collection when it was broken up in the mid 1980's. Jim bid virtually in every known sale since the early 1960's and was usually successful to a degree at each.

In 1968 he purchased most of the tokens in the Hagley Collection through Ray Jewell at Max Stern & Co. In 1973 he purchased the W.G. Wright Collection which was strong in 19th century silver issues and which had been purchased from Spink through Howard Linecar in 1948 when Bill Wright was visiting London. Purchases made from Baldwin in the late '70's and early 1980's included varieties needed for the collection and this involved pleasant hours of going through the stock. At the same time Australian tokens had to be sought for clients in Australia.

To record the collection Jim would tick off the numbers in Dalton & Hamer. Recently he made a typed list of what numbers are in the collection. This list is available to anyone who is interested by writing first to Jim at Noble Numismatics. The collection is all embracing and covers all varieties. The decision to sell by auction in Australia was made in order to offer as many collectors as possible the opportunity to acquire tokens they wanted. Although the collection could always be added to the challenge to acquire the few remaining key pieces involved too long and uncertain a wait for Jim at this stage of his life. Now the challenge lies in cataloguing the collection and having a permanent record of it.

The 18th century and 19th century series will take up the whole catalogue for Sale 58, Part B. The balance of his collection will be offered in later sales and price lists of Noble Numismatics. This includes world tokens, mainly British Colonial, 17th century tokens, tickets and passes, unofficial farthings, private dealers tokens, checks and communion tokens. Catalogues have always inspired collectors. Jim believes a good one encourages them to emulate the feats of collectors in the past. He recalls how he used to give a copy of his 1975 catalogue to budding collectors and explain that they too can achieve worthwhile collections if they are persistent. One such collector was a schoolboy who used to come in with his mother asking for Australian tokens. Jim gave him the catalogue and he has actually emulated the feat by putting together one of the finest collections of Australasian tokens. He is Shane Moran who is a very busy Chief Executive Officer for Moran Health Care Group.

The proposed catalogue of the W.J. Noble Collection will be illustrated throughout and will be an excellent reference for collectors now and in the future. As the catalogues are produced in limited numbers any new customers requiring a copy should order it now by writing to Noble Numismatics, 229 Macquarie Street, Sydney 2000 Australia. Payment can be made by credit card AMEX, Visa, MasterCard, Diners Club by draft or cash. The price is AUD\$30 per copy plus \$20 postage to the UK, Europe, USA, and Asia or US\$35.

The 18th century series follows the arrangement in Dalton and Hamer. It includes most of the known silver and gilt proofs, a range of trial pieces of which the die stage trials of the Staffordshire Tamworth penny are the most spectacular, nearly all different types and varieties and many edge varieties, a large proportion of mules by Skidmore and many of the medalets. Probably the highlight is the Hertfordshire, Sawbridgeworth penny of Robert Orchard dated 1801 and in ultra high relief. This example is from the Longman and T.A. Jan collections and is one of only four known. It carries the highest estimate at \$20,000 (the equivalent of £8,000). When last auctioned at the T.A. Jan sale in London in 1983 it realized £3700. The Middlesex series is extensive with only a few other rarities missing. The same could be said for the Warwickshire series which includes the intriguing die-work of John Hancock Jnr. when he was only seven years old! The Anglesey series is also very strong. Many of the common varieties in all series will be offered in group lots so that the sale remains manageable.

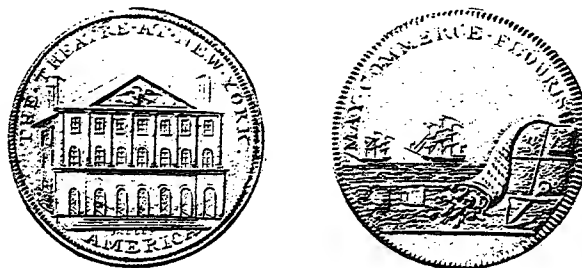
The 19th Century silver series includes the Bank of England issues 1804-16 and the Scottish countermarked dollars one of which is struck on a 1795 US silver dollar. Practically every standard issue is present and many varieties plus a few gilt and copper proofs. The 19th Century copper includes the rarities and a few proofs. The Birmingham Workhouse sixpence 1813 is the largest and one of the most valuable. In fact the Birmingham Workhouse series is virtually complete for all varieties in silver and copper, many were obtained from the W. Sykes Collection. Both series are listed by the standard references R. Dalton in (silver) and W. J. Davis (copper). The most valuable token in this series carries the highest estimate in the entire sale, the Guernsey crown of 1809, ex Whetmore (lot 223) and Ford (lot 146) collections, the estimate is \$30,000 (the equivalent of £12,000). The nineteenth century series of copper tokens followed the industrial revolution and were the forerunners of the series that developed in the Australasian colonies from 1849.

It is Jim's hope that Australian collectors see the relevance of the British series to ours and that this will encourage them to acquire some though he does concede a great deal of the Collection will go overseas mainly to US and British collectors a few of whom have indicated they would like to attend. The sale actually takes place at the Dallas Brooks Centre however the viewing will be available from 30th June at the new Melbourne office at level 7, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne. Specialists will be able to view outside the published public times by special arrangement. The collection will be available for viewing at the Sydney office from June 16th until 26th by special appointment. Through Jill Pearson of the Melbourne office accommodation can be arranged for country, interstate and overseas visitors.

There are several boutique hotel and apartment style rooms and suites that can be reserved, also the Hilton Hotel is nearby. Room rates range from about \$90 to \$130 per night and in the larger city hotels \$140 to \$280 or more per night (Australian dollars equivalent to .66 cents USA). The catalogue is planned to be distributed one month before the sale, however collectors wanting details in advance of this release date should write to Jim Noble for more information. He can also be contacted by fax 61 2 9233 6009 or email [noble@noble.zip.com.au](mailto:noble@noble.zip.com.au).



Hertfordshire. D & H 1  
Sawbridgeworth  
penny.



Middlesex. D & H 167  
The . Theatre . At . New . York . America.  
penny token.

### MEMBERSHIP LOCUS

Alabama	1	Minnesota	18
Alaska	0	Mississippi	1
Arizona	3	Missouri	1
Arkansas	1	Nebraska	4
Australia	1	Nevada	3
California	27	New Hampshire	3
Canada	2	New Jersey	8
Colorado	6	New York	15
Connecticut	10	North Carolina	3
Delaware	1	Ohio	9
England	14	Oklahoma	2
Florida	5	Oregon	4
Georgia	2	Pennsylvania	10
Hawaii	1	Saudi Arabia	1
Idaho	1	Tennessee	0
Illinois	8	Texas	1
Indiana	4	Vermont	1
Iowa	2	Virginia	1
Kentucky	3	Wales	1
Kansas	1	Washington	10
Maine	1	Washington, DC	2
Maryland	5	West Virginia	2
Massachusetts	8	Wisconsin	2
Michigan	4		

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS. 213

*I have recently received the results of our second group of renewals from our treasurer, Joel Spingarn, and the result is that we've dropped 19 more members (net) since last November. This decrease doesn't come as a surprise to me, as I have looked over the list of those who have dropped. Some were just being helpful to get us started, some have stopped collecting tokens, and others were just curious. Our Club has over 200 pretty solid members now, and that's a very strong beginning. I am pleased with the number, and it makes this effort very much worth while. This segment of the hobby is collector driven, not investor driven, and I'll take good strong collectors every time. I am certain that we will experience some nice steady growth over time. In the meantime, I'm quite satisfied with our progress. We all need to lead interested collectors into the Club, we have much to offer them.*

### NEW MEMBERS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>City &amp; State</u>
277	Jeff Means	Lutz, FL
278	Anthony Fein	Clearwater, FL
279	Bill Sharkey	Bass River, MA

## Ex Libris

The CTCC Research Library (an admittedly pretentious name for a small box of books in my den), continues to grow. Progress is slow, but as time goes by, I hope the collection will justify the name. Since the last report, we have received the following:

- R. C. Bell's *Commercial Coins 1787-1804* given by Richard Kolbek #251
- a contribution of \$36.00 raised by Cliff Felage #165 through the sale of the antique map offered in the August 15, 1997 issue of *The Conder*. This brings the library's assets to a total of \$93.36. Thank you Richard and Cliff!

Also, I am having Volume II of *The Conder* bound. Volume II consists of only the August and November 1997 issues. Volume III begins with the present issue, thereby allowing future volumes to correspond with calendar years. Bound with Volume II are the outstanding plates for Jerry and Sharon's "Overstrikes, New Varieties" article from the November 15, 1997 issue, (Unfortunately, Sharon's wonderful photography didn't reproduce well in the original article, but these plates show the tokens to much greater advantage).

## Remembering Ken Lowe by Harold Welch

The numismatic community suffered a sudden and tragic loss on February 23, 1998. On that day Ken Lowe was struck by a fatal attack of Rapid Onset Diabetes. Although Ken wasn't currently an active member of CTCC, he was charter member #28. He made an important contribution to the study of token literature with his work entitled "THE PRINCIPLE ENGLISH TOKEN LITERATURE-A Modest Trial Bibliography", which appeared in the first two issues of *The Conder*.

Most of us knew Ken better as the always informative and amusing editor / cataloger for *The Money Tree*. Ken, along with his partner Myron Xenos, over roughly the last dozen years produced 29 numismatic literature sales, published several important numismatic works and issued 21 numbers of *Out on a Limb* (a chatty, irreverent journal which taken as a whole undoubtedly provides the greatest record and insight into the world of numismatic literature over the last decade or so). Along the way, Ken also made a lot of friends. I like to consider myself among them.

I didn't *really* know Ken that well. We had met in person only three or four times. Yet even upon our first meeting, I felt he was a friend. Collecting tokens or numismatic literature isn't about lumps of stamped copper or dusty old books, it's about the people you meet and the friends that you make. It's about understanding the twinkle in his eye and the excitement and pride in his voice as Ken showed me a return envelope from some old time coin dealer - something most people would be hard pressed to give a polite "Oh that's nice".

Recently, Ken told me he had an old book on English tokens and if I would simply let him know what it was, he would be glad to send it to me with his compliments. He wasn't worried if it might be valuable, he just wanted to know what it was and thought I might enjoy it. When the package arrived it also included two additional books; gifts for my son, Dean ("I had to fill out the box"). The token book turned out to be a charming little volume that had been put together from parts of *The Virtuoso's Companion* and other early works along with numerous hand made rubbings and annotations. I will always cherish it. Ken closed by saying, "Minneapolis may have cold weather, but it sure produces good people with warm hearts". You've got to love a guy like that.

Ken taught high school English for the Euclid Public School System (in the Cleveland area) for 30 years. He had only just retired at the end of the last school year. Ken was looking forward to several new numismatic projects with his new found time. It is all of our loss that he did not get to complete them. Ken was only 53 years old.



Paul Dofton  
Suadi Aramco  
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January 2, 1998

Wayne Anderson  
PO Box 1853  
Maple Grove, MN 55311-6853  
USA

Fax: 1-612-420-3350

Dear "Conder" Token Newsletter,

Please add these to the "ASK THE EXPERTS" in the next issue of the Newsletter:

First, I was looking over a Warwickshire 81 and 84 and noticed that the edges also have seven zodiac symbols on them. In Davissons D & H it mentions similar edge symbols added to 95a and 97a, but nothing for 81 and 84. Are these new varieties or is this relatively common to see, on the Birmingham Mining and Copper Company series? Do you know anything about why they added the symbols?

Another question I have is that I frequently use Xylol to clean the crud off the F to EF tokens I have, but I do not always coat them with Blue Ribbon; especially since I heard many British collectors don't like the coating. Personally, I don't think there is a problem to leave them raw, but I've read more than once that the Xylol cleans them so well that the coins are more prone to future oxidation, and should have Blue Ribbon added. I welcome your comments.

Best Wishes for a New Year,



Paul Dofton  
CTCC No. 141

ctcc3.doc



**Jerry Bobbe      Sharon Bobbe**  
**Professional Numismatists**

**PO Box 25817   Portland, Oregon 97298   503-626-1075**

February 21, 1998

Dear Wayne:

Your continued super-human effort in getting The Conder "to fly" is greatly appreciated, especially here in Portland, Oregon. We anxiously await each issue, and voraciously devour every word.

In regard to our November 1997 Conder article, *Overstrikes, New Varieties, Mistakes, Oh My!*, I would like everyone in the club to understand the poor quality of the photos was not the result of the photographer, namely me! I was truly embarrassed by the printing outcome, particularly after your kind mention of my new coin photography skills. The photo reproductions in the article were indistinguishable, and nothing like the originals. One of your attempts at getting good reproductions involved having the article/photos scanned. The scanned images were excellent and very close to the originals, but the resolution was completely lost in the printing process.

I will be sending the *scanned* copy of the article to Harold Welch for inclusion in the CTCC library. Anyone interested in seeing what the tokens/photos really looked like should contact Harold.

Kudos to Michael Dickinson for his astute observations in a personal response to the above-mentioned article. He correctly identified our "unique" Hampshire 68 Bis as being, in fact, Dick Doty's Hampshire 71 Bis (See Conder Vol. I, #1, page 35). Dr. Doty's plated specimen (from the American Numismatic Society cabinet) has a noticeable alteration which changed the 4 in the date to a 1. Ours did not. We humbly yield to the good doctor in his assignment of a Bis number. Even though the obverse is the same on #68-72, the reverse is indeed closest in appearance to #71.

Plans are in motion for the busiest six weeks of our lives. We'll be jetting back from the Noble Sale in Melbourne with a mere two days recovery, before embarking on a week of fun in Colorado Springs at the ANA Summer Seminar. Education Director, James Taylor, has told us things are looking good for the ultimate realization of our "Conder" class. Several people are already signed up. We suggest quick action if you are interested, as the conference limit for all classes is set at 300 (call me if you need an application). July 17, we return to Portland with two final weeks to prepare for our exhibit at ANA. As if there isn't enough to do, Jerry will be co-teaching a class with J.P. Martin, August 1-3, on *How to Grade U.S. Coins*. August 10, our 21st anniversary, we plan to be unavailable.

Kind Regards, Sharon Bobbe  
CC: Harold Welch

# **Meeting of the Washington State Members of the Conder Token Collectors Club**

A short meeting of the Washington members of the Conder Token Collector's club was held at the Boeing Employee's Coin and Sports Card Show at the Kent Commons on January 17.

Four members attended, and the meeting was chaired by Carl Honore', the Washington State Representative.

There was some discussion about the upcoming ANA convention in Portland, Oregon. Several exhibits featuring Conder tokens will be featured. One idea mentioned was to possibly have some application forms for the club that could be at the bourse tables of those selling tokens. Carl Honore' is planning to bring some very worn tokens which can be given to children attending the convention.

Scott Loos showed an impressive collection of uncirculated tokens featuring a Campbell's (I forgot the D&H designation) Turk's head with a nice 90 degree rotated reverse (or obverse).

Missed this year was Bill Mckivor who was in California, (though Scott's wife Lisa swears she saw him on the bourse floor about an hour before the meeting! Move over, Elvis,).

Sorely missed was Big Bob Everett. Rest in peace dear friend.

The meeting disbanded after about 15 minutes.

Repectfully submitted,

Carl C. Honore'  
Washington State Representative  
Conder Token Collectors Club

Members in attendance:

Carl Honore'  
Eric Holcomb  
Scott Loos  
Lisa Loos

Royal Sutton Coldfield  
Warwickshire.  
January 9th 1998

Mr. Wayne Anderson  
Editor  
'Conder' Token Newsletter  
The United States of America

Dear Sir,

With reference to the suggestion made by Mr. C. C. Fellage to change the title of our quarterly publication, the writer begs leave to observe as follows:

- 1 Whilst acknowledging that there are differences in the use of the English language dependent on where one lives, nevertheless a criterion should apply.
- 2 The writer prefers reference to the Oxford English Dictionary rather than an 'Alice in Wonderland' leaning. ("Words mean, said Alice, what you want them to mean")
- 3 Therefore - JOURNAL - a daily record of proceedings - not a three monthly one as the learned Mr. Fellage so lyrically defines; so let us put that misnomer to rest.
- 4 In consequence the writer humbly suggests and submits the following alternatives for consideration:

CONDER TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB

TRANSACTIONS  
MARCH 1998

(More for  
Historical societies?)

CONDER TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB

CHRONICLE  
MARCH 1998

(Hardly an  
on-going record?)

CONDER TOKEN COLLECTORS CLUB

MAGAZINE  
MARCH 1998

(if it fits?  
bite the bullet!)

The Editor's decision, to be accepted without demur, is patiently awaited by the writer who has the honour to remain,

Sir,

Your Most Humble & Obedient Servant,  
C. R. HAWKER

POSTSCRIPT.

Personal congratulations to  
Mr. Fellage for his superb  
word-picture on page 38.

Colin Hawker.

## **THE TOKEN EXCHANGE AND MART**

CTCC members, in good standing, are cordially invited to dispatch their articles and advertisements to the CTCC editor for publication in the JOURNAL. Articles are always needed and appreciated. Articles do not have to be camera ready, but I appreciate it when they are camera ready, and they are always published free of charge for the benefit of the membership. Advertisements are needed and appreciated just as much, and up to twelve (12) lines are **FREE!** Full page ads are **\$75.00**, one third page ads are **\$25.00**. Ads larger than the free twelve (12) line ads must be camera ready. All paid ads must be paid for when submitted; thus, eliminating the possibility for confusion, and the need for costly, unnecessary, and time consuming billings and follow up. The Club operates on a cash basis. Ads submitted without full payment will not be accepted or published. The content of ads and articles shall be limited to "Conder" tokens, and related numismatic literature, coins, tokens, and collectibles. Ads or articles may either be accepted or rejected at the discretion of the editor. All articles and ads must be accompanied by your membership number. Only members can participate in the journal and all other Club activities. The Club rules are designed to be simple and few, please comply with them. The **deadline** for the JUNE 15th, 1998 issue is MAY 25th, 1998. Journals are issued quarterly, and Volume III will now begin with this issue. Your articles and ads must be sent to the president and editor: Wayne Anderson, PO Box 1853, Maple Grove, MN 55311-6853.

### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$25.**

**NOTICE:** The "Conder" Token Collectors Club, publisher of The "Conder" Token Collectors Journal, assumes no responsibility or liability for advertisements placed in the journal. No party shall have recourse against The "Conder" Token Collectors Club, or its officers, or officials, for any reason associated with the publication of its journal. All transactions arising from or relating to advertisements in The "Conder" Token Collectors Journal are strictly between the parties to their transactions. Complaints concerning advertisers or respondents should be directed to the president of The "Conder" Token Collectors Club. Complaints can result in termination of membership, or termination of advertising privileges, or both.

\*\*\*\*\*

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For all business, letters, inquiries, articles, ads, suggestions, complaints, and information concerning the CTCC.

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For payment of dues and donations, address changes, & journal reprints. Dues are \$25 per year. Journals are always sent to you via first class mail.

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### **ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!**

Please let me know if you are planning to attend the ANA 107th Anniversary Convention in Portland, Oregon on August 5th - 9th, 1998. The convention will be held at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr., Boulevard. I need to know so I can arrange for a meeting room for our first annual meeting. I need to tell the ANA what size room we will require, when and where the meeting will be held, how many will attend, if we intend to have food served, and what our seating requirements will be. Sharon Bobbe is our host regional representative in the Portland area, and I need to coordinate our activities with her. Please drop me a note as soon as you can, so that we can get our plans together. Thank you, and please send your note to:

Wayne Anderson  
PO Box 1853  
Maple Grove, MN 55311-6853

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### **Free Advertisements**

These Ads, 12 lines or less, are free for "CTCC" members. Send yours to:  
Wayne Anderson, PO Box 1853, Maple Grove, MN 55311-6853.

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### **CHARLES KIRTLEY**

CTCC #125

"CONDER" TOKENS, COLONIAL COINS, HARD TIMES TOKENS, AND ALL SORTS OF INTERESTING MATERIAL APPEAR IN MY ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAIL BID SALES. WRITE OR CALL FOR A FREE COPY OF THE NEXT ISSUE.

CHARLES KIRTLEY, "CTCC" #125, PO BOX 2273C,  
ELIZABETH CITY, NC 27906-2273. PHONE: 919-335-1262. FAX: 919-335-4441.  
E-Mail: ckirtley@erols.com

\*\*\*\*\*

BILL McKIVOR'S COPPER CORNER - FOR "CONDER" TOKENS, EVASION PIECES, and 19TH CENTURY TOKENS. From VF to UNC, the COPPER CORNER'S fixed price list has something for everyone. NEW ISSUE OUT NOW!! Also buying - please contact me for a fast, fair offer - any amount, any grade.

Call or write today to be put on my mailing list.  
Bill McKivor CTCC #3 PO Box 46135 Seattle, WA 98126  
Phone, evenings only, (206) 244-8345  
E-Mail Condernut@juno.com

\*\*\*\*\*

### **FREE PRICE LISTS OF BRITISH TOKENS AND MEDALS, WITH EMPHASIS ON "CONDERS".**

Simon Cordova (CTCC #30), PO Box 2229, Kihei, Hawaii 96753-2229.  
Phone: 808-891-2846, Fax: 808-891-2365, E-Mail: SiCordova@aol.com

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**Jerry & Sharon Bobbe, CTCC #4 & #5.** We have been enthusiastically pursuing "Conders" for over 25 years. Our price list, **The Token Examiner**, was born of a passion for this exciting series, and a desire to share it with others. As collectors, we appreciate fine service, so we're not happy until you are. We'll do our best to fulfill your collecting needs. Our specialties are choice quality, rarities, and die-states, but our **Token Examiner** offers pieces Circ - Gem for \$12 and up. If you haven't received your free copy of **The Token Examiner**, call or write us today. We buy singles, groups or entire collections (i.e., Eklund, Blaisdell), and pay the strongest prices for choice quality and rarities. If you have tokens to sell, your consideration would be greatly appreciated.

The Token Examiner PO Box 25817 Portland, Oregon 97298 503-626-1075

\*\*\*\*\*  
**CLIFF'S "CONDER" CHEST**  
**CLIFFORD C. FELLAGE, CTCC #165, PO BOX 911, FARMINGTON, CT 06034-0911**  
**PHONE: 860-676-0023 / FAX: 860-676-0853**  
Send for my free periodic price list, with tokens from Very Good to Superb Red Proof.  
Major credit cards accepted for your ordering convenience.

**FREE LIST NUMBER 6 NOW AVAILABLE, WITH A LARGE NEW**  
**SELECTION OF TOKENS, FROM AN OLD COLLECTION,**  
**JUST PROCURED FROM ENGLAND.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Rod Burress, CTCC #109, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215**  
  
Write for price list of copper collectors supplies:  
Heavy duty 2x2 envelopes, cotton liners, good quality boxes,  
cleaners, brushes, magnifying glasses, etc.  
I also have some "Conder" tokens for sale!  
Phone 513-771-0696  
\*\*\*\*\*

**WANTED!**  
**WARWICKSHIRE #320 FOR MY SHAKESPEARE COLLECTION.**  
**TOM FREDETTE, CTCC #60, 2 TRAVERS ST., BALDWINVILLE, NY 13027-2615**

\*\*\*\*\*  
***Send for my sale or trade list of duplicate British tokens and my token want list.***  
***I like "Spence" tokens!***  
***I also want all Berkshire 19th Century silver tokens EF or better.***  
***James C. Case, 10189 Crane Road, Lindley, NY 14858-9719***  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Wanted in nice VF or better**  
**D & H Hampshire 79 or 80, Middlesex 283, or 284 and 398,**  
**Sussex 10, Dublin 235-250, 269-303, and Angus 7 or 7a.**  
I also need a few scarce 19th century pennies, and silver shilling tokens.  
Frank Gorsler, CTCC #63  
674 Allen Crest Court, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231  
\*\*\*\*\*

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*Looking for UNC. SPECIMEN OF YORKSHIRE D & H 65 (York Cathedral / Talbot, Allum, & Lee Mule). Also UNC. "SPENCE TOKENS" by type - looking for one of each die he used. Would appreciate receiving lists from anybody having these for sale.*

*David L. Palmer CTCC #107  
1080A Long Island Ave.  
Dear Park, NY 11729*

\*\*\*\*\*  
**140 PAGE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE**

The latest edition of our catalogue of numismatic items for sale that has been issued regularly for 32 years is now ready. It includes thousands of British tokens as well as commemorative medals and coins from all over the world. The catalogue is free on request, but please include \$2 to cover airmail postage when applying to the address below, with apologies for its un-American length.

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\*\*\*\*\*  
**FREE "CONDER" TOKEN PRICE LIST**  
(Conservative Grading)  
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PO Box 21169  
Catonsville, MD 21228  
410-788-7546  
E-mail: eac4331@aol.com  
Chris Schwerdt, CTCC #275

\*\*\*\*\*  
**ANNOUNCEMENT!**

I am pleased to announce that JERRY & SHARON BOBBE will be teaching a course on "Conders" at the ANA's 30th Annual Summer Conference in Colorado Springs, July 11 thru 17, 1998. Twelve (12) students is necessary! Some of the topics that will be covered in class are:

Attribution, Care/Preservation, History of the characters and times, Informational sources, Grading/Pricing, Trials/die-states/errors/overstrikes/rarities. You will have the opportunity for hands-on participation, and you can bring your favorite tokens too! This is a great opportunity for you to learn all that you don't know with respect to this fascinating series. For Summer Conference information please contact:

James Taylor, Education Director  
American Numismatic Association  
818 North Cascade Avenue  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279  
719-632-2646 or FAX 719-634-4085  
ana@money.org      <http://www.money.org>

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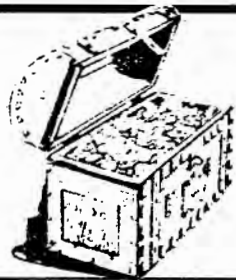
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LONDON W1X 1PD**

**TELEPHONE AND FAX: 011-44-132-785-8511**

**18TH CENTURY TOKENS**

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I HAVE SPECIALIZED IN 18TH CENTURY TOKENS SINCE 1975 AND HAVE PRODUCED FIXED PRICE LISTS SINCE THAT DATE. CENTRED HERE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO ACQUIRE OLD COLLECTIONS AS WELL AS INTERESTING LOTS IN COUNTRY AUCTIONS. GOOD QUALITY TOKENS ARE BECOMING EVEN SCARCER. BUT EVEN SO IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO BUY MINT CONDITION PIECES WITH "RADIO - ACTIVE" COLOUR FOR UNDER \$50.00. PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR A LIST - OR ANY OTHER TOKEN INFORMATION OR ADVICE.



**CLIFF'S**

**"CONDER"**

**CHEST**

**CLIFFORD C. FELLAGE, CTCC #165, ANA #147922, EAC #34126  
PO BOX 911, FARMINGTON, CT 06034-0911  
PHONE: 860-676-0023, FAX 860-676-0853.**

**WRITE FOR MY COMPREHENSIVE FREE PERIODIC PRICE LISTS OF  
18TH CENTURY "CONDER" TOKENS, FROM GOOD TO GEM RED UNC.  
MY CURRENT LIST #6 FEATURES MANY "NEW" PIDCOCK TOKENS, AND  
A LARGE COLLECTION OF TOKENS PROCURED FROM ENGLAND RECENTLY.**

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FOR YOUR ORDERING CONVENIENCE.  
STOP BY MY TABLES AT THE EAC 98 CONVENTION IN BOSTON,  
APRIL 3RD - 5TH, AND GET A FIRST HAND LOOK AT MY  
EXTENSIVE SELECTION OF TOKENS!**



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PART I, THE BRITISH TOKENS 18th and 19th Century in the separate catalogue 58B.

The 18th century or "Conder" token series is strong in all counties and includes many silver proofs, patterns and trials. Many of the great rarities include the **Robert Orchard Sawbridgeworth penny** with ultra high relief (Ex. Longman and Jan Collections), the **New York Theatre penny** and the unique die stage trials of **John Harding's Tamworth penny**. In all some 4000 pieces.

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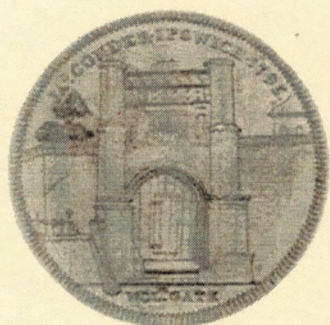
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# BRITISH TRADE TOKENS



Suffolk, Ipswich  
J Conder Penny 1795. DH 10  
*Reverse: View of  
Wolsey Gate*



Warwickshire, Birmingham  
Penny, 1798  
*Reverse: Presentation of colours to the  
Birmingham Association 4 June 1798*

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An interesting selection of high quality  
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For further information please contact  
Antony Wilson on 00-44-71 747 6803.



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## Token notes

The Great Australia Token Sale. The Noble sale in July in Melbourne promises to be one of the most exciting token sales ever. The collection is one of the largest and most important ever formed. I will attend—I already have my airline tickets. I will arrive a week early to review lots. I can acquire pieces with your interests in mind to be offered to you privately before they go into a general catalog. Get in touch if I can help. We will also send out a special token list soon after returning from the sale. If interested, be sure you are on our mailing list.

Our next catalog: Auction 10. The catalog will be mailed in March. The token section does not match our last sale but it does include an outstanding group of London penny tokens—the Globe series in particular is well represented. The book lots include an original edition of Dalton and Hamer. The original edition has collotype photographs, a process that results in halftones with a continuous gray scale. When you magnify a collotype photograph the picture does not break apart. When there is a particularly small detail to identify on a token, photos in the original edition are invaluable.

The Jan II collection of Spence halfpennies. We have just bought over 150 pieces in this series, all different, from the second Jan collection. The first part of the collection was sold at public auction in 1983 and 1984. This other major group of tokens was sold privately. The pieces have been residing in trays since. We should have them all catalogued in time for the Early American Coppers Convention in Boston in April. If you would like an offprint of our inventory list, please send \$5 and we will send a copy by priority mail as soon as it is available.

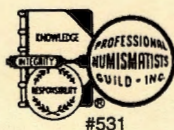
### —REFERENCES FOR SALE—

R. Dalton & S. H. Hamer; *The Provincial Token Coinage of the 18th Century*. 1910-1918. Reprinted 1990. Prefatory update, 1990. Introductory notes and additions, 1996

- High-quality library blue buckram. \$150.
- A copy from a limited edition of 14 signed and numbered copies, full leather, gold lettering. \$275.
- Davisson, *A Brief Introduction to 18<sup>th</sup> Century Tokens*.  
Detailed notes on the series, all the text of the 1996 Introductory notes and additions. \$6
- Davissons Ltd. Auction Nine, an October 1997 sale featuring "Conder" tokens. With prices realized. \$5.
- Hawker, C. *Druid Tokens, Eighteenth Century Token Notes from Matthew Boulton's Letters*.  
A detailed and thoughtful analysis, with photos, of this beautiful series. \$18.

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